

THE Nonconformist.

THE DISSIDENCE OF DISSENT AND THE PROTESTANTISM OF THE PROTESTANT RELIGION.

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Eccliaastical Affairs.

DENOMINATIONAL EDUCATION IN IRELAND.

FRIDAY night last in the House of Commons will not soon fade from the memory of those representatives belonging to the Liberal party who attended the evening sitting. It will not soon be forgotten, we should think, by Mr. Gladstone or his colleagues. It was a night spent by the majority of the right hon. gentleman's supporters in mingled wonder, perplexity, and distress. For the first time, as far as we are aware, a mutinous spirit was excited in the Liberal camp. There was a sense, not merely of wrong done, but of feelings heedlessly trampled upon, by that leader who is regarded by his followers with respect bordering upon affection. Their surprise was equal in its intensity to their regret. A blow had descended upon them at a moment when they least anticipated it. For awhile they were as stupified by it as men would be at the crash of a thunder-bolt hurled from a cloudless sky. Fortunately, the course of events made it possible for the leader of the House, almost as soon as he had committed himself to an extreme and an unreasonable position, to extricate himself from it, and thus to avert the disaster which would otherwise have happened. But we must tell the story to our readers as consisely as we can; after which we shall be content to leave them to judge how possible it is for a political party, with earnest convictions and some independence of judgment, to be split into sections by inconsiderate tactics on the part of their leader.

Mr. Fawcett had upon the notice paper for Friday night, notice of a resolution which he intended to submit to the House on the subject of Trinity College, Dublin. Twice before he has attempted to deal with the same question, though in a somewhat modified form, and on both occasions has been technically baffled rather than defeated upon the merits of the question involved. That question was the opening of the Dublin University, with which, for the present, Trinity College is co-extensive, to all classes of literary aspirants, without regard to their religious profession. Trinity College, Dublin, has always been ahead of the Universities in England in its treatment of what may be called "the religious difficulty." Even as long ago as 1793, it took advantage of the relaxation of the Penal Laws, and obtained the authority of the Legislature to confer degrees on Roman Catholics. Of course, the disestablishment of the Irish Church has considerably

altered the disposition of the governors of that great National Educational Institution, as it respects the abandonment of all religious restrictions upon the conduct of University affairs. The foundation in 1860 of the Catholic University of Ireland, the exclusive and ultramontane purpose and character of that institution, and the efforts made by the Roman Catholic bishops to obtain for it a charter and a State endowment, so as to place the higher education of Catholics in Ireland under the exclusive control of the Roman hierarchy, gave increased force to the motives which impelled the Governors of Trinity College, Dublin, to remove all remaining restraints of an ecclesiastical character from the Government and teaching of the Dublin University. Accordingly a memorial was sent up by them, not long since, to the head of Her Majesty's Government, praying him to adopt such a course of policy as would finally enable that national institution to admit to its endowments without distinction of religion.

Mr. Fawcett's resolution, proposed to the House of Commons at its evening sitting on Friday last, may be said to have grown out of the presentation of the above-mentioned memorial to the Premier. It expressed the satisfaction of the House with the sentiments expressed by the Trinity College Fellows and Professors, in relation to the question of religious tests, as far as it is applicable to their institution, and it called upon the Government, with the least possible delay, to carry into effect the policy it indicated. The resolution, on the face of it, appeared to most members of the Liberal party to be innocent enough. But in the early part of the day rumours got abroad, not only that it would be opposed by the Leader of the House, but that he would regard the adoption of it as a ground of serious displeasure. Then it was, that the words of Mr. Chichester Fortescue, in reference to this same question last year, and which almost committed the Government to the policy of a denominational, as opposed to a united university, system, for Ireland, were recalled to the minds of members with a feeling of mingled revulsion and pain. Mr. Fawcett himself, in introducing this resolution to the House, appeared much more careful than has been his wont not to deviate to the slightest extent from the course prescribed by a conciliatory spirit. His motion, however, was seconded by Mr. Plunkett, junior member for Dublin University, who, as well as his colleague, Dr. Ball, sits upon the Conservative side of the House, and whose general relations to the Government of the day can hardly be described as of an amicable character. In a maiden speech of remarkable promise, in which he displayed many of the oratorical qualities which tradition ascribes to his renowned grandfather, the hon. and learned member not merely claimed for Trinity College, Dublin, a consistent course of expanding Liberalism up to the present time, but took occasion to express in a vivid and highly dramatic form the jealous apprehensions which Irish Protestants entertain of Mr. Gladstone's supposed inclination towards the Ultramontane priesthood of Ireland. The strain of admonitory observation which he saw fit to adopt in reference to this subject, fell in with an indescribable and mysterious, but not less real, suspicion which for some time past has cast a

shadow over the minds of some Scotch and even English members, that, neither in regard to Irish education nor to English, are Mr. Gladstone's sympathies fully at one with those of his followers. Consequently, every word uttered by Mr. Plunkett fell upon already susceptible feelings, and the pain which they inflicted was greatly aggravated by the vague belief that Mr. Fawcett's resolution was to be opposed by the Government.

Unfortunately, Mr. Gladstone, seemingly aware that a somewhat mutinous spirit had been excited by the rumoured intentions of the Government, instead of using his best efforts to dissipate temporary discontent, got upon the high horse and rode up and down before his own supporters, with an air of imperious independence which chafed the tender places in their recollections, and increased their anguish. Of course, if the question had gone to a division at that moment, upon its merits, the disaster would have been great, perhaps irremediable. A motion for the adjournment of the debate, however, offered both to Mr. Gladstone and to his supporters a possible chance of escape from the difficult position in which he had placed both himself and them. Most of them voted with their leader upon this motion, simply because they could thus show a general attachment to him without committing themselves to any particular violation of their convictions. A very large majority, therefore, went into the same lobby with the Right Hon. Premier. With this he professed to be satisfied, and, instantly, and with some hilarity of manner, acceded to a proposition for the immediate adjournment of the House. Mr. Fawcett's Resolution thereupon fell through, as a dropt Order, so that it may be revived during the present Session, after the Land Bill has been disposed of.

We hope the question will meet with a happier solution when it shall be re-introduced to the notice of the House of Commons. On Friday night last, the Government had so strong an argument against Mr. Fawcett's course, in point of time and opportunity, that it could reasonably excuse itself from saying anything upon its subject-matter. This will not be the case when the Land Bill has been sent to the Upper House. Some intimation of what is to be the policy of the Administration, as affecting the higher educational institutions of Ireland, will have to be given previously to the autumnal recess. The more thoroughly Parliament does justice to Ireland in sentimental and material matters, the more fixed is its determination not to sanction any handing over of the education of the people, and especially of the highest style of their education, to the exclusive keeping of any priesthood whatever, and much less to a priesthood deeply imbued with ultramontane ideas. If it should be a fact that Mr. Gladstone and Mr. Chichester Fortescue have contracted a leniency towards any such policy, they will find it an utterly impracticable thing to give effect to their wishes. The House of Commons will not have it at any price. No Leader whatever has influence enough to guide it into any such position. We believe that, if driven to the alternative, it would prefer to face sudden dissolution, than to contradict the known convictions of the constituent body upon so vital a question. The extension of denominationalism in connection with educational machinery is repugnant to the

wishes of the entire Liberal party, and any attempt of the Ministry to override it on this subject will eventually, and perhaps speedily, lead to utter political disorganisation and chaos.

ECCELESIASTICAL NOTES.

It is a healthy sign, that, notwithstanding the pledge of the Government to reconsider the religious clauses in the Elementary Education Bill, the Nonconformists do not consider it to be wise to suspend agitation. There has probably been no Government more open to the influence of public opinion than that which now holds office; and we are persuaded that it is only necessary to convince it that the opinion of the people is opposed to the settlement of the "religious difficulty" which it has put forward, in order to induce it to abandon altogether the clauses to which objection has been taken. The most influential Nonconformist meeting upon this question was held at Manchester last week. Its general character may be gathered from the report given in another column. What may be concluded as certain, from this and similar meetings, is that the Nonconformists are entirely agreed as to their opposition to Mr. Forster's Bill as it at present stands. More than this. We think we can say that the opposition strengthens, and is gradually drawing together not only those who usually unite to oppose any infringement upon religious liberty, but those also who are generally tardy in taking action upon such subjects. The Wesleyans have been almost the first to respond to the appeal that has been made to all the Nonconformist bodies. No fewer than nine hundred of their ministers have protested against Mr. Forster's Bill. The *Watchman* wishes it to be understood that they have only protested against the religious clauses, but this, we imagine, it was not necessary to say. As Nonconformists, we have nothing else to protest against.

The increasing feeling of the Wesleyans against the Established Church was fairly exhibited in a speech of the Rev. W. H. Holland at Manchester. Dr. Rigg, in his address at the anniversary meeting of the Wesleyan Training Institution, had spoken of the intolerance of clergymen in country districts. Mr. Holland followed this up, and went farther by stating that there was a great change coming over the Methodist people. He said—"They had now been at variance with the Church of England for years. The Church of England had pronounced the baptism of Dissenters to be no baptism at all, and had denied the efficiency of the Sacrament when administered by a Methodist minister, and the Methodists were never further from being the friends of the Established Church than they were to-day." We are further informed by the report of the *Manchester Examiner*, that Mr. Holland concluded by saying that—"Whatever amendment Mr. Gladstone might bring in, no amendment would be satisfactory to the Nonconformists of England which compelled a man to pay for the teaching of a religion in which he did not believe, and no amendment would be satisfactory which handed over the schools to an ecclesiastical organisation." "'Tis pity, 'tis," but "'tis true," that the Methodists are only just learning this wholesome doctrine, and a good many, we are afraid, are not quite as advanced as Mr. Holland. We can, however, safely leave the Church to educate them.

It has occasioned us some little surprise that the *Guardian* newspaper should have declared so decisively as it has done in favour of denominational education. As a rule, we look to our contemporary for an expression of the most cultured, and on the whole, the most unbiased, Church opinion upon ecclesiastical questions. We regret, therefore, to find in its last issue the following remarks, occasioned by some recent meetings of the Birmingham League:—

Every one of its meetings, but most of all the last, shows that, though its numerical strength is derived from the infatuated support of the Nonconformists, it is really fighting the battle of Secularism. In the speeches of its main champions this fact has always been thinly disguised, but the disguise is growing thinner every day. The plain fact is, and the Secularists know it, that the so-called denominational schools, and mainly the Church schools, are the strength of religious teaching in the country. Under their shadow the undenominational schools, such as the British and Foreign schools, may maintain a really religious character, wherever they grow up naturally to supply the wants of a locality. But sweep away the Church schools, or exclude them entirely from the new rate-supported area, and the undenominational system will stand a poor chance against the more logical and consistent system of the secular educator. Is it too late even now for the religious Nonconformists to throw ecclesiastical jealousy and political party to the winds, and to meet frankly and liberally the concessions, not inconsiderable, which the leaders of Church Education have made?

To no appeal from a Church source should we listen with greater respect than to an appeal from the *Guardian*. Our answer to this is, Why should

the Nonconformists be the catspaws of the Church? It is, of course, quite natural, past history being taken into consideration, that Churchmen should look upon certain class of Nonconformists as their tools; but the *Guardian* knows history too well to believe that this is possible with the Nonconformists of the present day. We are asked to throw "ecclesiastical jealousy and political party to the winds." A very fine appeal, and very fitting! When the Church will throw ecclesiastical supremacy and political jobbery to the winds, we shall be quite willing to meet the Church on equal ground as regards these points; but on no other than equal grounds. We have ecclesiastical jealousy, but jealousy in this case has good cause.

Extreme Churchmen—who are, we are happy to believe, getting fewer and fewer every day—are rather excited at the apparent apathy of Churchmen in general with respect to the education question. Thus a clergyman, the Rev. Charles Hartley, writes to the *John Bull* of last week in this style:—

What will arouse Churchmen? Dissenters and Infidels do their best to awaken them, but they slumber on, and dream of peace and safety. They are threatened on all sides, but they still show no sign of awakening.

I should have thought the "Burial Bill" should have brought them to their feet. Monstrous in itself, and monstrous in its consequences, as opening first our churchyards, and eventually our churches, to the invasion of those who have deliberately left us, and who either hate or despise our services, it yet has a large majority in favour of it in the House of Commons, where even now nominal Churchmen outnumber the Nonconformist and Infidel section.

What is the Church Institution doing? It prepared a petition, I know, against the bill. But what active steps did it take to procure signatures? Observing in your columns that it had prepared a petition, I wrote to the secretary requesting him to affix my name to it. I received, in answer to my note, a circular and a form of petition. The circular was dated Feb. 28, 1870. I received it, on application, about the middle of March. I doubt whether, if I had not applied, I should have received it at all. Possibly the attitude of Dissenters during and after the debate on the second reading of the Education Bill may stir us up at last. If so, God be thanked for their enmity! Unlike your correspondent, Mr. Gurney, I believe that Dissent is an irreconcilable foe, and to be met and treated as such. With all our resources, it will be to our unspeakable shame if we allow the Church to succumb to this bitter but still inferior enemy.

If we had written on Monday we should, like some of our unfortunate daily contemporaries, have enlarged upon a meeting, supposed to have been held at London House on Saturday last, of the Bishop of London and the Ritualistic clergy of his diocese. It happens, however, that, although it was reported, the meeting was not held—the Bishop's illness compelling its postponement. It is, however, well understood, and has been for some weeks past, that the bishop requires the following of all the clerical members of his diocese,—

The prohibition of notices of "high celebration of the Holy Eucharist"; the ceremonial of mixing water with the wine at the Holy Communion, the elevation of the paten and the cup; the ringing of the bell at the time of consecration and elevation; making the sign of a cross when about to mix water with the wine; wearing stoles and dalmatics at the Communion service; using lighted candles on the Communion table during celebration; the ceremonial use of lighted candles at other times; using incense for censuring persons and things; processions round the church with thurifers, incense vessels, crucifixes, and candles; leaving the Holy Table uncovered on Good Friday, blessing of candles, &c.

No doubt the reports, although in anticipation of the fact, are quite correct when they state that the Ritualists will resist these orders. But what if they do? They must either obey or rebel: there can be no conscientious rebellion within, no effective rebellion outside of the Church.

The Bishop of Carlisle, who some time ago paid an honest and courageous tribute to the honesty and courage of the Liberation party, has recently addressed the parishioners of Bridekirk, Cumberland, upon the prospects of the Church. Perhaps nothing could be more instructive than the Bishop's words, which we therefore quote verbatim,—

I look forward to the future of the Church of England with very mixed feelings. I know that it is a critical time; I know that it is a dangerous time; I know that when we have seen a sister Church on the other side of the water tumbling down in the course of one session; not tumbling down spiritually—God forbid! not ceasing to be a Church—God forbid! but tumbling down from that important State position in which it was placed,—when we have seen that done almost like a flash of lightning, the sentence being uttered and the thing done forthwith,—when we have seen that take place before our eyes, it is quite clear we are living in times in which very remarkable results do take place very rapidly. Therefore it is impossible to look forward to the future of the Church of England—I am speaking of her as an Established Church—without a very grave feeling of apprehension. If I thought it would be for the benefit of the people—for the benefit of the country generally—that the Church of England should be disestablished, that she should be put into an altogether different position from that in which she now stands, then, I trust, no selfish or class feeling on my part would tempt me to interfere with that which might be for the good of the community at large. But, believing as I do that it is not those who professedly belong to the Church of England only, but that it is the

whole population of this country who benefit by the position in which the Church has been placed, who benefit by the high position that has been assigned to her, who benefit by the class of men that enter her ministry, who benefit by all the great works that she is able to inaugurate and carry on in the way she does, who benefit by the influence which she exerts, not only in those things which are distinctly religious, but in other matters such as the education and general moral improvement of the country,—believing that this is really the truth of the matter, I trust I shall not be considered as acting on any selfish or narrow principle when I say it is my heart's desire that God may support and keep the Church of England in the position she now occupies. At the same time, I feel that if it is to be done, it must be done by our efforts. God emphatically helps those who help themselves; and if we bite and devour each other—if we have among ourselves petty party feelings—if we look to small matters as separating us one from another, instead of looking to those great points which bind us together in one family, then, I say, it is a bad look-out for the Church of England. But if we join together—not clergy only, but clergy and laity,—and when I say laity I mean lay women as well as lay men—if we join together, each doing in his position, whether it be high or whether it be humble, what he can for the honour of God and for the benefit of our neighbour, then, notwithstanding the dark cloud and bitter east wind which seems to be beating upon the Church of England, I believe she will have a glorious future before her, and that she may yet be a blessing to this country.

Need we say that the bishop in these words has sounded the knell of the Established Church?

Spain is disestablishing and disendowing the Roman Catholic Church in detail. A paragraph in our present number records the steps that are being taken to prepare for a total separation between the State and the Ecclesiastics. All temporal jurisdiction is to be taken from the clergy, and their incomes are to be considerably reduced, with the view, it is to be hoped, of ultimate annihilation. It has also been proposed to separate religion from State education, but upon this point the Government has been beaten in the Cortes by a small majority, but sustained by a later meeting of the Liberal members. One of these days it may be supposed England will be as advanced as Spain.

THE LIBERATION SOCIETY.

THE ANNUAL MEETINGS.

These meetings will this year be held on the first Tuesday in May (instead of Wednesday), the 3rd of the month. The Council will meet at one o'clock at the Cannon-street Hotel, to receive the report of the Executive Committee, and to consider the various topics which it will bring before them. The *soirée* in the evening will be at Freemasons' Hall; the tea being at six, and the meeting at seven. Arrangements will be made for accommodating, as far as possible, those who come after tea, on their being provided with tickets. We are glad to state that Henry Richard, Esq., M.P., has consented to preside, and arrangements are making for the presentation, by able speakers, of the various important subjects which are at the present time engaging the attention of the Society's friends.

The *Liberator* of this month reports a large number of meetings held in connection with the Liberation Society. The reports include meetings at Woolwich, Bradford, Sheffield, Oldham, Bury, Clitheroe, Ashton-under-Lyne, Mossley, Smallbridge, Colne, Burnley, Stanningley, Farsley, Selby, Goole, Mexbro', Ruthin, Daventry, Flint, Mold, Mostyn, Manchester, Leeds, &c.

THE BISHOP OF LONDON AND THE RITUALISTS.

A meeting of clergy was held at London House on Saturday afternoon, in consequence of certain proceedings which it is understood his lordship has determined to institute in reference to Ritualistic practices in his diocese. The Bishop, in the first instance, invited the five clergymen in whose churches Ritualism is most fully developed to meet him—viz., the Rev. O. F. Lowder, vicar of St. Peter's, London Docks; the Rev. John Going, vicar of St. Paul's, Walworth; the Rev. D. Nihill, vicar of St. Michael and All Angels, Shoreditch; the Rev. C. J. Le Geyt, vicar of St. Mathias, Stoke Newington; and the Rev. A. H. Mackonochie, vicar of St. Alban's, Holborn. Subsequently many other clergymen were invited, the Bishop in his letter to them stating that it had but lately come to his knowledge that the appeal from the late decision of the Court of Arches in the case of "Elphinstone v. Purchas," which he had supposed to be general, was limited to those only of the articles on which the judgment was against the promoter, and that the judgment on all the other articles, not being appealed against, stands as the authoritative exposition of the law touching the points to which those articles related. The misinterpretation of facts acknowledged by the Bishop was shared by many of the clergy, and as Mr. Purchas was not represented in the Court of Arches, and did not appear, no appeal can be heard until May—that is, not until the expiration of four months

from the 3rd of February, on which day Sir Robert Phillimore delivered his judgment. The case has become still more complicated by the death of Colonel Elphinstone, the promoter of the suit. As there is no appeal lodged in reference to those points on which Sir Robert Phillimore gave judgment against Mr. Purchas, the Bishop of London considers that he has a right to enforce the following regulations, amongst others, in all the churches of his diocese, and it is understood that he will take means to enforce them:—The prohibition of the notices of high celebration of the Holy Eucharist; the ceremonial mixing water with the wine at the Holy Communion; the elevation of the paten and the cup; the ringing of a bell at the time of consecration and elevation; making the sign of a cross when about to mix water with the wine; wearing stoles and dalmatics at the Communion Service; using lighted candles on the Communion Table during celebration; the ceremonial use of lighted candles at other times; using incense for censuring persons and things; processions round the church with thurifiers, incense vessels, crucifixes, and candles; leaving the Holy Table uncovered on Good Friday; blessing of candles, &c. The points which the Bishop proposes to leave untouched for the present are those on which Sir Robert Phillimore decided against the promoter of the suit. They are as follows:—The vases of flowers on the Holy Table, regarding which the Dean of the Arches said there was no evidence to prove that they had been used as an additional rite or ceremony; administration of wine and water mixed; standing in front of the Holy Table, with back to the people, during the prayer of consecration; the use of wafer-bread; wearing a chasuble at the Communion Service; wearing tunics and albs at the Communion Service; wearing the biretta. It is understood that the clergy more immediately affected will resist the Bishop's attempt to suppress the practices in which they are interested, and that a fierce ecclesiastical battle may be expected.—*Times*.

It has since been explained that the meeting did not take place. Several rev. gentlemen attended at the time appointed, but in consequence of indisposition, his lordship was unable to see them, and no business was transacted. The bishop's illness is not of a serious character; he is much better.

THE IRISH CHURCH CONVENTION.

At Tuesday's sitting of the Convention the question of the mode of election to the Primacy of Armagh was reopened. It was moved by Mr. Murphy to rescind the resolution of the Archbishop of Connor, to the effect that the appointment should not lie with the diocese itself, but with the bench of bishops. The debate occupied the greater portion of the day, a large number of suggestions and amendments having been brought forward and rejected; but at length the following motion of the Archbishop of Dublin was accepted by a majority of seventy-one clergymen and fifty-six laymen:—

That on the occurrence of a vacancy in the See of Armagh, the Diocesan Synod of Armagh shall send up the names of four bishops to the Bench of Bishops, and that when these are submitted the bishops should make their choice of the Archbishop of Armagh; that the Diocesan Synod of Armagh and the diocese left vacant by the bishop chosen to the primacy should each send up the name of a presbyter to the bench of Bishops, and that out of those two the bishops shall select one to the vacant see.

On Thursday the Convention discussed a proposal in favour of a petition to Parliament, urging that the commutation date might be altered from the 1st of January, 1870, to an earlier day. Several speakers thought that the presentation of a petition would place the Convention in a degrading position; the better plan would be to ask a Conservative member to introduce a motion into the House of Commons on the subject. A committee of members of the Representative Body has now been formed to receive subscriptions on behalf of the new Irish Church. The Archbishops of Armagh and Dublin, the Earl of Meath, Judge Warren, Mr. John Barlow, and Mr. Wm. Ewart were nominated as treasurers of the fund. Several other resolutions were passed, regulating the mode in which the members of the Church should be asked to give systematically to Church sustentation; after which the Convention adjourned.

On Friday the Convention met for the forty-first time, and after disposing of some financial business adjourned to October next.

THE COUNCIL AT ROME.

It is announced that the Council at Rome has voted the Schema de Fide. The canons deduced therefrom are published at length by the *Allgemeine Zeitung*. They are directed against Materialism, Atheism, and Pantheism. An idea prevails at Rome that the Pope and the Ultramontanes have now abandoned all thought of conciliation. Indeed, the *Civiltà Cattolica*, published at Rome, contends that a simple majority of the fathers of the Council is sufficient to "defend the dogma" of the personal infallibility of the Pope. In that case a minority of about a hundred prelates will, it is said, protest against the decision. It is expected that the third public sitting of the Council will be held on Palm (next) Sunday.

It is said that the French Government have resolved to send a fresh note to Rome, to be communicated simultaneously to the Pope and the Council.

A telegram in the *Eastern Budget*, dated Rome, March 29, states that the Austrian and Hungarian members of the minority in the Council have returned to their dioceses.

The *Mémorial Diplomatique* learns from Rome that

the Pope has postponed all promotions to the Cardinalate until the Consistory which will be held in September next. This determination has been induced by a desire to avoid all appearance of attempting by the introduction of eighteen new cardinals into the Council to exercise a favourable influence upon the question of Pontifical Infallibility. It appears certain that Monsignor Darboy, Archbishop of Paris, will be included among the new promotions, as also will be Monsignori Chigi and Antonucci Falcinelli, Apostolic Nuncios at Paris and Vienna.

It is stated that the Pope has resolved to reject the proposals of Aali Pasha in favour of the Armenian Secessionists.

The remarkable scene in the Council on the 22nd of March is thus described at some length by the correspondent of the *Pall Mall Gazette*:—

The two Fathers called to order were Cardinal Schwarzenberg and Monsignor Strossmayer. The Cardinal attacked the revised scheme *De Fide*, and especially denounced the canons which anathematise Protestants, and which threaten them with eternal damnation. He said that such doctrines were at variance with the spirit of the Gospel, and that both the precepts and interests of the Catholic Church required her to address dissenters in the language of patience and charity. He declared that Protestants numbered in their communities men distinguished by sanctity, illustrious by genius and talents, and ennobled by their benefactions to humanity—men who could not be precipitated by words into hell. He spoke with derision of such an award of eternal torments, describing it as both profane and impudent. The time for these curings between Catholics and Protestants was, he thanked God, now past, never to return; he and the other bishops of Germany knew better than the bishops of exclusively Catholic countries what Protestants were, and what their needs. For his part, he frankly tendered them his hand, longing to begin the great work of religious conciliation, because our age is an age of conciliation and pacification.

It was at this point that Cardinal Schwarzenberg was interrupted by Cardinal de Angelis, who, in calling him to order, affirmed that he was not speaking to the question. Cardinal Schwarzenberg replied that he had never swerved from the question. The President-Legate angrily repeated the charge, which Cardinal Schwarzenberg, in tones still more vehement, again denied. Thus the dispute continued till Cardinal Schwarzenberg uttered an indignant exclamation and started out of the tribune. This incident called up Monsignor Genouilhac, Archbishop-Designate of Lyons, who made a diplomatic speech, designed to allay the excitement of the Assembly. Monsignor Strossmayer then ascended the tribune and, amid a profound silence, delivered the most eloquent panegyric on Protestants that ever fell from a Catholic bishop. His powerful voice reached every ear, and commanded the most earnest attention, while in language more impassioned than Cardinal Schwarzenberg's he reviewed the terrible religious struggles of the sixteenth century. He then eulogised the Protestants of the present day, pronouncing the canons against them as simply ridiculous, and, like Cardinal Schwarzenberg, declared that Protestants must only be addressed in terms of conciliation.

The word "conciliation" again aroused the Legates, and Cardinal Capalti now rose and called the orator to order. But Monsignor Strossmayer took not the slightest notice of the interruption, and continued his speech, even when the Legate renewed his injunction. This contumacy so provoked the Legate that he peremptorily ordered him to desist. Monsignor Strossmayer then turned to the President, and cried out that he was weary of these calls to order, which were only made to suppress freedom of debate; and that if the Council approved such decrees as *De Fide*, the whole doctrine of the Church would be perverted. He was citing the bitter complaints of Origen against Rome, when the Infallibilists shouted, "Sileat! sileat! damnamus eum!" on which the bishops of the Opposition raised protesting shouts, while some of the Italian prelates cried, "Viva Pio Nono! Vivano i Cardinali Legati!" This tumult could not be repressed, and the Legates broke up the assembly.

According to another account, Strossmayer, conceiving himself aggrieved by the violent gestures and cries of the four hundred Fathers who helped the President to silence him, has sent in a strongly-worded protest, with the demand for an apology. He maintains that the Cardinal ought to have stopped the clamour, and reproved what are described as actually threatening gestures. To this demand for satisfaction he adds a question, for which he insists on a categorical answer,—"Is a majority to decide a dogma?" Of course this puts the Pope in a dilemma. If the answer be "Yes," that extinguishes two great principles at a blow—viz., the Unanimity of Ecumenical Councils, and the Infallibility of the Pope, neither of which can hold its ground in the face of decision by majorities. If the answer be "No," then there is always hope for the minority. But can Strossmayer really expect an answer to his question? After the scene above described, all the French and German bishops called upon him, and, not finding him at home, left their cards; and on Strossmayer coming to the next meeting of the International Committee at Rauscher's, all rose and embraced him.

At the distribution to the Oriental and missionary bishops of the hundred and twenty cases of ornaments and sacred vases presented by the ladies of Belgium, the Pope delivered an address in which he said:—

I love the Oriental rites, and I wish them to be preserved intact. The variety of rites is one of the grand features and glories of the Catholic Church. I love all my children without distinction of nation, of language, or of rite.

Then—after a comparison of the position of "the Vicar of Christ" to that of our Lord before Pilate—he continued:—

This moment is very solemn for us: it brings in discussion the principles of eternal life, the decrees of the Church and the Holy See. Truths, the holiness and justice of which should be recognised by all, are attacked

by men who, calling themselves the friends of Caesar, are the friends of the Revolution. Let us not be intimidated by the menaces, nor seduced by the promises of these people. Thus we shall not imitate Pilate, but will stand by the cause of God, without being influenced by the applause of the world, or discouraged by those censures which they call public opinion.

The Paris *Univers* of Thursday relates two incidents of rather remarkable character. A theologian in attendance upon an Armenian bishop having indulged in language repugnant to authority, was ordered to retire into a monastery. He refused, and the officers of the Vicariate attempted to arrest him. The theologian escaped from their hands and took refuge with his bishop, who has protested against the action of the authorities, and thus the matter remains at present. The other circumstance was still more serious. An Apostolic Visitation having been directed to the Armenian convent of the Antonines, the bishop refused to admit the Apostolic Visitor. An order was obtained from the Pope commanding the bishop to make a retreat in a Dominican monastery. The prelate refused obedience, and has written to the Bishop of Marseilles to obtain the protection of France against the Holy Father.

THE BURIALS BILL.—The select committee of the House of Commons on this bill, which sat on Friday with closed doors, have adjourned till the 11th of April.

FISH TITHES.—At the St. Austell (Cornwall) Petty Sessions, on Tuesday, the Rev. H. Baumgartner, vicar of Mevagissey, recovered 14l. from Messrs. Fox and Co., for fish tithes.

THE REV. N. WOODARD, who has been principally concerned in founding the remarkable middle-class schools on a large scale in connection with the Church of England, has been appointed Canon of Manchester. He is a High Churchman.

THE SUIT AGAINST THE REV. MR. PURCHAS, OF BRIGHTON.—In consequence of the death of Colonel Elphinstone, the promoter of this suit, the appeal now pending before the Privy Council from Sir R. Phillimore's judgment in the Arches Court falls to the ground.

THE CONVENT QUESTION.—A petition, prepared by the Duke of Norfolk, Sir Charles Clifford, and Mr. Langdale, was on Sunday last laid for signature before every Roman Catholic congregation in Great Britain, praying the House of Commons not to consent to the nomination of Mr. Newdegate's Committee on Conventual Institutions.

UNION OF CITY BENEFICES.—Arrangements are being made for the union of the City benefices, which will result in the destruction of two more City churches, making in all four removed. The parish of All Hallows Staining is to be united with that of Olave, Hart-street, the Church of All Hallows Staining being pulled down. The parish of St. Mildred Poultry is to be united with that of St. Olave Jewry, the Church of St. Mildred being removed to make room for the improvements in the neighbourhood of the Mansion House. The removal of some other City churches will take place as soon as the necessary arrangements can be made.

THE REV. BREWIN GRANT.—Brewin Grant, well known as a Congregational minister, for many years at Cemetery-road Chapel, Sheffield, was publicly admitted on Monday into the Church at St. Luke's, Sheffield, in the presence of a crowded congregation. It had been notified that Mr. Grant would make a confession of faith; but the vicar—the Rev. S. G. Potter—was threatened that if he allowed such a divergence from the form of service it would be represented to the Archbishop. At the close of the sermon Mr. Grant left the pew and stood near the lectern. Mr. Potter read the confession for him, which expressed his belief in the doctrines and formularies of the Church.—*Leeds Mercury*.

THE POPE A DESCENDANT OF A JEW.—A correspondent of a continental contemporary writes as follows to the *Jewish Chronicle*:—"I have to make a communication which will undoubtedly prove most interesting to the readers of your paper—namely, that a man thoroughly acquainted with Roman and Italian families has incontestible proofs that the relatives of the present Pontiff, Pope Pius IX., the family of the Mastai, are of Jewish descent. The Mastais derive their title of nobility from one Ferretti, who belonged to a family of the *ancienne noblesse*, but had married in Sinigaglia a baptized Jew, of the name of Mastai. Already twenty-four years ago, when Count Mastai Ferretti ascended the Papal throne as Pius IX., the Marquis Consolini published a genealogical pamphlet, in which he demonstrated the Jewish origin of the Mastai. The writer was cited before the tribunal, and his writing burnt. A deadly feud sprang up between the Mastai and Consolini families. One of the Consolinis fell by the hand of one of the Mastais, such occurrences not being very rare in Sinigaglia. The whole story would have been well-nigh forgotten, had not a Roman publisher discovered among a heap of dust-covered volumes a copy that had escaped detection, published it anew, and substantiated the truth of its statement by fresh proof. The *Correspondance de Rome* tries to question the authenticity of the statement, but without success."

CHURCH AND STATE IN SPAIN.—The Madrid advices state that the new measure which the Government, taking advantage of the retirement from the Ministry of Admiral Topete and his party, who were opposed to all clerical reforms, have just presented to the Cortes, is one of the most sweeping brought forward since the revolution, and amounts almost to a separation between the State and the Church, destroying also the little that remained of the Concordat with Rome. The bill gives to the clergy the same civil rights as are enjoyed by other

citizens of Spain, and grants them freedom of action in all religious matters, the publication of bulls and other dispositions from Rome, without the necessity of submitting them previously for the Government *exequatur*, but takes from the bishops all the temporal jurisdiction to punish, banish, and remove curates, &c. At the same time great reductions are made in the number of bishops, canons, and other dignitaries, as well as in the salaries of those who will remain. Instead of nine archbishops and forty-seven bishops, with salaries from 1,630*l.* to 900*l.*, there will be four and thirty-three respectively—the primate with 1,000*l.*, another at 800*l.*, and the rest at 600*l.* each. The dotations of deans, canons, prebendaries, &c., for the cathedrals are reduced, as well as the salaries of those left, to nearly one-half. The sums assigned for expenses of worship, which in many cases were most exorbitant, have likewise been curtailed or taken away, and many other important reforms are included. The final result is:—Ecclesiastical Budget, as voted by the Cortes, 1,664,466*l.*; new Budget, now submitted in lieu thereof by the Government, 1,352,786*l.*, making a reduction of 311,680*l.* Notwithstanding this diminution, it is said, "considering the parochial and other dues, rents, &c., which the Church possesses, the Spanish clergy, after all, are better paid than those in France and other Catholic countries."

A CHAPEL CASE.—A question of considerable interest to chapel trustees was decided a few days since at Liverpool. The Local Board of Health for the district of West Derby summoned two of the trustees of the Stanley Congregational Chapel and Schools, Green-lane, for the recovery of 20*l.* 7*s.* 6*d.*, expended by the Local Board in the construction of sewerage works on land belonging to the chapel trustees. The trustees had sewered their own land, but to complete the drainage it was necessary that their drains should be carried into a larger sewer which the Local Board had had to construct along a road running behind the chapel, and the constructive cost of which was now sought to be recovered. Previous to the land being drained it was a mere swamp, but had now become valuable building land. The 38th section of the Local Government Act, 21 & 22 Vic., exempts any incumbent or minister of any building used purely as a place of worship from liability to such charges as local rates. Mr. Radcliffe, for the Board of Health, contended that the Act, while exempting ministers, did not exempt trustees of their places, and the latter must necessarily be liable or they would have been expressly exempted. This claim was a personal remedy against the trustees as owners of the premises, for the board did not seek to charge the amount against the chapel, that being exempted by statute. Mr. Duke, for the defence, urged that no legal proposition could be more clear than that a trust estate was bound to indemnify a trustee for any charges he might have to pay. That being so, how could these trustees be liable for claims against trust property when that trust property was exempted from indemnifying them? The bench decided that the defendants were exempted by the Act of Parliament from the claim now made. The summons against the defendants was then dismissed.

SECTARIANISM IN BUCKS.—A correspondent writes:—"A short time since a lad residing near Aylesbury having accidentally injured his arm, he was taken to the infirmary at Aylesbury, where, by the house-surgeon and others, his case was attended to. One of his arms was broken, but by some queer mistake the poor lad was sent home with the splints on the wrong arm. A change of house surgeons had since been thought necessary, and on the 28th ult., at a general meeting of the governors, called for the purpose of electing a house-surgeon, a little bit of sectarianism cropped up. The well-known and liberal-minded clergyman, the Rev. W. R. Freemantle, inquired of the candidate if he was a member of the Church of England, and received an affirmative reply. Whereupon Mr. Dickens, a Nonconformist governor, said he did not know of any rule to warrant that question. He did not think it at all necessary that the applicants should state their religious faith. Mr. Freemantle contended that he had a right to ask the question if he liked. Mr. Dickens maintained that the question ought not to have been put; Mr. Scrivener, another Nonconformist, also protested against it. The Rev. A. Isham, another well-known Evangelical clergyman, thought Mr. Freemantle might put the question if he chose; one of their best presidents always did so. (Lord Chesham was chairman on the occasion.) Mr. Dickens said they were there as a body of governors to elect an officer. They were supposed to be a body of gentlemen met upon neutral ground; the institution was subscribed to by all branches of the Christian church, and therefore he opposed such a question being asked. Mr. Freemantle said if the candidate had been an infidel, or a Mohammedan, or a heathen, he thought it would have made a great difference. Mr. Butcher, another Nonconformist, thought the question should not be asked, or that the candidate need not answer it. Even liberal clergymen have to be called to order by Nonconformists, but they may have been those who complained to their bishops of bad cottages, beershops, and Dissent."

RUSTIC CURIOSITY.—It is stated that as the Princess of Wales and Lady Downe were driving, on Saturday week from viewing the meet of the Fitzwilliam Hounds at Catworth guidpost, a countryman approached the pony carriage, and, addressing Her Royal Highness, said, "Please, Miss, be you the Princess?" The Princess smilingly gave him an affirmative answer.

Religious and Denominational News

The Rev. A. McLaren, B.A., is announced to preach the annual sermon, in Surrey Chapel, on behalf of the London Missionary Society.

The Rev. J. P. Allen, M.A., of Leicester, has accepted a call to the pastorate of the church at Gloucester.

The Rev. Thomas Jones, late of Bedford Chapel, London, and now of Swansea, has accepted the nomination of the committee of the Congregational Union to the chairmanship of that body for 1871.

The Rev. Henry Martyn Foot, B.A., LL.B., of Bideford, Devon, has accepted the cordial invitation to the pastorate of the Baptist Church, Derby-road, Nottingham, and is expected to enter upon his ministry there on the 1st of May next.

The Poultry Chapel is to be sold, it is said for 70,000*l.*, and a new place of worship of great magnitude will be erected for Dr. Parker, on the site of Claremont Chapel, Pentonville, within two minutes walk of the Angel.

SOUTHWARK SUNDAY-SCHOOL SOCIETY.—On Sunday week the Rev. Dr. Mullens preached the anniversary sermons of this society in Surrey Chapel to crowded audiences. In connection with the society there are thirteen schools, containing 5,707 scholars and 402 teachers, the aggregate expenditure being 511*l.*, or about 2*s.* per child yearly. The society has just completed its seventieth year, having been founded by the Rev. Rowland Hill in 1799. Liberal collections were made at the close of the services.

FOREST-HILL.—The pastorate of the Congregational Church, Queen's-road, has been resigned by the Rev. E. Johnson, B.A., owing to prolonged absence from England, rendered imperative by the severe illness of a relative. The Rev. T. O. Hind took the morning services at Queen's-road Chapel last Sunday, and addressed the church and congregation very feelingly on the loss they had sustained; reading also the church's letter of farewell, which conveyed a high tribute to the character and ministry of their late pastor.

LEICESTER COLLEGIATE CHURCH.—Services of an interesting and encouraging character have lately been held in connection with the third anniversary of the opening of this place of worship. On Tuesday, March 16, the Rev. J. Baldwin Brown, B.A., preached to a large congregation, and on the Lord's Day following, two appropriate sermons were preached by the pastor, the Rev. Joseph Williams. On Tuesday, March 22, a public tea-meeting was held, at which addresses were given by various friends. The services were regarded both by minister and people as very encouraging.

APPRENTICESHIP SOCIETY.—The half-yearly election of the Society for Assisting to Apprentice the Children of Dissenting Ministers was held at 18, South-street, Finsbury, on Tuesday, March 29, 1870, Peter Bunnell, Esq., in the chair. After prayer by the Rev. A. Haunay, the Rev. I. Vale Mummery, the London Secretary, indicated the business that was to be done. The poll was opened at eleven, and closed at one o'clock; when the eight candidates at the head of the list were declared duly elected to the benefit of the institution. A resolution was cordially adopted, expressing the warmest sympathy with W. Wells Kilpin, Esq., J.P., of Bedford, the country secretary, who was absent on account of the death of his eldest son. From various statements which were made, it was evident that the society was doing a large amount of good among the children of our excellent but poor ministers. Votes of thanks were accorded to the chairman for presiding on the occasion, and to the gentlemen who had assisted in conducting the election of the day.

THE LATE REV. J. W. PERCY, OF WARWICK.—This venerable and honoured minister of Christ calmly passed away to his eternal rest on Thursday, March 24, in the 86th year of his age. He was the pastor of the Independent Church, Brook-street, Warwick, for fifty years. During the nine years since his jubilee and resignation, he has frequently preached, and in various ways served the church. At his interment on Tuesday, the 29th March, the Rev. G. Shaw, the pastor, conducted the service, and the Rev. J. Sibree, of Coventry (an old and attached friend of Mr. Percy's), delivered an appropriate address. The Rev. J. Button and the Rev. F. Overbury (Baptist), also took part in the solemnities. Many shops in the town were closed out of respect to the departed. On Sunday evening, April 3rd, the funeral sermon was preached by the Rev. G. Shaw, to a very crowded assembly, most of whom were in mourning attire. Many persons were unable to gain admission. Mr. Percy was universally beloved for his amiable character and long and faithful ministry.

OPEN-AIR PREACHING IN THE CITY.—The open-air preaching season was inaugurated on Sunday afternoon at the Royal Exchange. The meeting, which continued from three till five o'clock, was conducted by Mr. G. Kirkham, Secretary of the Open-air Mission. The first address was delivered by the Rev. Thomas Richardson, incumbent of St. Matthew's, St. George's East, who was the first preacher here when the Lord Mayor gave permission for these services about twelve years ago. He was followed by the Rev. William Tyler, of the Congregational Church, Mile-end, and the Rev. G. W. McCree, minister of the Mission Church, Bloomsbury; both experienced open-air preachers. Captain Melville Pym, of the Evangelisation Society, and Mr. Thomas Walker, the city missionary of the district, also took part. The weather was remarkably fine, and a large crowd assembled. Mr. Orsman's Golden-lane Bible-classes sang some of Philip Phillips' American

hymns with good effect. It was announced that Lord Farnham would preach there next Sunday.

PRESBYTERIANISM IN LONDON.—Scotch Presbyterianism has for some years past been making considerable progress in London, and new chapels have been built in all the principal suburbs. On Thursday the memorial stone of another Presbyterian chapel was laid at Hammersmith, where the Rev. Mr. Miller has for the last few months been conducting service in a temporary building. The ceremony was performed by the Marquis of Lorne, M.P., in presence of a large congregation, including Mr. Macfie, M.P., Mr. Stevenson, M.P., and the leading Dissenting Presbyterian ministers in the metropolis. After the laying of the stone the Marquis delivered a short address, expressing the pleasure it afforded him to take part in the interesting proceedings. He was glad to learn that many people not connected with the body attended the services in the Hammersmith church, and he believed that would happen more frequently were greater variety introduced into the services, and were the mode of worship so altered as not to be left entirely to the discretion of the minister. In Scotland influential people were alienated from the Church of their fathers for want of this variety, and it was an unhappy state of things when the squire of a parish went to one church and the mass of the people to another. Knox, the founder of the Scottish Church, used the Liturgy of King Edward, and he (the Marquis) did not see any reason why the example of the great Scottish Reformer should not now be followed, and a liturgy introduced into all Presbyterian churches. The Rev. Dr. Guthrie, of Edinburgh, next spoke, and regretted the divisions which existed not only among Presbyterians, but among Protestants generally. He was glad to find that the Presbyterians in England were likely soon to unite, but he deplored that, owing to the opposition of certain extreme men, the same happy result was not so near at hand in Scotland, though negotiations with that view had been going on continuously for the last seven years. At the close of the proceedings a handsome collection was made in aid of the building fund.

THE PASTORS' COLLEGE, METROPOLITAN TABERNACLE.—The usual annual supper of this institution, given by Mr. Phillips, one of the deacons of the Metropolitan Tabernacle, was held on Thursday evening in the lecture-hall of that building. There was a very large attendance of ladies and gentlemen, and the proceedings were of a very enthusiastic character. Mr. Spurgeon made an interesting statement of the work of the college, which has now entered on its fourteenth year. Speaking of his early pecuniary difficulties in respect to the institution, he said that the sale of his sermons in America enabled him to expend from 600*l.* to 800*l.* a year in his own favourite work; but on a sudden, owing to his denunciations of the then existing slavery in the States, his entire resources from that quarter were dried up. He feared to get into debt, and at one time proposed the sale of his horse and carriage, although those were almost absolute necessities on account of his continual journeys in preaching the Word. However, the weekly offering was proposed and succeeded.

About 5,000*l.* is now annually required for the college, and the same sum will be needed for the orphanage when it is filled with boys; but God will move His people to liberality, and we shall yet see greater things than these. While speaking of pecuniary matters, it may be well to add that as many of the young men trained in the college have raised new congregations, and gathered fresh churches, another need has arisen—namely, money for building chapels. For chapel-building, the college funds could do but little, though they have freely been used to support men while they were collecting congregations; but the Lord found for me one of His stewards, who on the condition that his name remains unknown, has hitherto, as the Lord has prospered him, supplied very princely amounts for the erection of places of worship, of which up to this present hour, through help thus rendered, more than forty have been built, or so greatly renovated and enlarged as to be virtually new structures. Pecuniary needs, however, have made up but a small part of our cares. Many have been my personal exercises in selecting the men. Candidates have always been plentiful, and the choice has been wide, but it is a serious responsibility to reject any, and yet more to accept them for training. When mistakes have been made, a second burden has been laid upon me in the dismissal of those who appeared to be unfit, for my aim has been to send away none who might ultimately become qualified, and yet to retain none who would be a burden rather than a service to the churches. Even with the most careful management, and all the assistance of tutors and friends, no human foresight can secure that in every case a man shall be what we believed and hoped.

They had, however, sent forth 207 brethren, many of whom presided over some of the most flourishing Baptist churches in England and Scotland. The number of students in the college is between eighty and ninety. The Chairman (Mr. McArthur, M.P.) addressed the meeting at some length. He expressed himself gratified with the statement they had just heard, and he thought it was a cause for congratulation and thankfulness that their honoured friend, Mr. Spurgeon, was able to be present and was in such apparent good health, after his recent affliction. He had been very much astonished and surprised and delighted at the magnitude of the work accomplished by this institution. He had no idea before he came to the meeting that the Pastors' College had been the means of introducing so many men into the ministry. The Rev. G. Rogers referred to the work done in the college, and the Rev. J. A. Spurgeon, as vice-president, made his report relative to the condition of the college. Addresses were delivered by some of the students. Mr. Chamberlain, of Bath, late of Glasgow, defended the

preaching of the old orthodox creeds; Mr. Collins, of Southampton, Mr. J. O. Forth, of Bingley, Yorkshire, Mr. Whale, of Bures, and Mr. Sawday, of Pentonville, spoke of the educational and spiritual advantages which they had derived from the college. Dr. Macfarlane (Presbyterian) expressed in the warmest terms his delight in witnessing the results of the college work; Mr. H. Varley, of Nottingham, addressed a few words to the students; the Rev. J. T. Wigner, of New-cross, spoke in high terms of the labours of those of the students whose spheres he had visited; and the Rev. Dr. Gillette added a few words. At the supper the Rev. C. H. Spurgeon presented a very handsome Bible, on behalf of the students, to Mr. Phillips, who urged the friends present, since they had given so liberally on previous occasions, to make an effort that evening to subscribe 2,000l. After supper, Mr. Spurgeon led off with a subscription of 100l., the chairman followed with 50l., Mr. Sands 100l., Mr. J. Harvey promised a cheque for 50l., Mr. Cunliffe, the banker, gave 50l., Mr. Higgs, 50l., Mr. John Brown, 25l., and others ten guineas each. The whole sum subscribed during the evening amounted to 1,235l.—a sum in advance of that given last year. Votes of thanks to Mr. McArthur for presiding, and to Mr. Phillips for his banquet, brought the proceedings to a close.

Correspondence.

THE BISHOP OF WINCHESTER AND CONCILIATION.

To the Editor of the Nonconformist.

SIR,—The Bishop of Winchester, in his rejoinder to Mr. Winterbotham, M.P., says that he "has no hostility to those who differ from" the Established Church; that he has never had a controversy in his forty-two years' ministry with his Dissenting brethren; that "led by his earliest education," he both "respects them" and "rejoices ungrudgingly in the good God has enabled them to do." This is certainly encouraging, coming from a Christian prelate, but it clashes, nevertheless, with a statement I find in a volume containing a History of the Bible Christian Connexion,* an unpretending body of Methodists who have largely supplemented the Christian teaching of the Established clergy in many rural parishes in the south of England. The paragraph runs thus: "On Friday, 13th, and Sunday, 16th of October, a substantial chapel was opened for Divine worship at Brixton, Isle of Wight. The clergyman, Mr. Wilberforce, the present Bishop of Oxford (1865), had used his influence to have the preaching turned out of one house after another, so that they had to worship in the open air; and for some months, in the coldest part of the winter, they had their preaching services and prayer-meetings by the side of the highway, in frost and snow. Ultimately a friend sold the trustees a piece of freehold on which the chapel was erected." (P. 150.)

And later in the volume is a statement of the deprivation of the poorer members of the congregation of any participation in the parish charities—a usual feature of the warfare between Church and Dissent in the rural parishes.

I would hope we are approaching a day when such struggles will cease; they are still rife in many rural parishes, however, and the Government Education Bill, as it stands, will intensify and embitter them.

I am, Sir, yours faithfully,

JOHN THORNE.

2, Manaden Villas, Headlands-park, Plymouth, March 21, 1870.

THE EDUCATION QUESTION IN RURAL DISTRICTS.

To the Editor of the Nonconformist.

SIR,—In your paper of 23rd of March last I observed that a writer, whose name I forget, offers for the consideration of your readers certain suggestions upon a variety of points bearing upon the great educational question now before the country. Amongst other proposals I find one in reference to school boards. He says:—"It does not seem advisable that there should be a needless multiplication of these boards throughout the country. . . . They might be for a union of parishes, as there are for poor-law purposes," &c., &c. I am of opinion, Sir, that, whosoever your correspondent be, he does not reside in a country parish, nor can he be a member of a board of guardians. Will you allow me to say that if his suggestion was acted upon, it would come to this—that the board of guardians of every union throughout the country would be constituted the local board of education, and so save the expense of an election for the schools, or the mapping-out of new districts. This would never do, if religious equality is to be the basis and result of the present educational movement. Being a member of a country board of guardians, I have not far to look in order to show the error into which your correspondent has fallen on this question. The board of which I speak consists of more than forty members; among that number nearly one third are from towns of moderate size, say, with an average population of 8,000, and from one town the whole of the guardians are Dissenters. Still, strange to say, there are but ten Free Churchmen in the whole. Now, here, then, you have a

case in point. Were the religious duties of a school in our town left to the tender mercies of that board of guardians—and I contend, on your correspondent's principle, it would—we ourselves should be fearful sufferers; for Dissent here is as three to one. Whereas, if left to ourselves, we should have the matter under our own control, and other parishes would receive no injustice at our hands; whereas, they, were we united with them in our school board, would do an incalculable harm, and themselves no good thereby. I am well aware, Sir, that we must in small places, and in every place, be prepared to give up for the general good in this and all other public questions, something of our own feelings and fancies; but it never has been, it never can be, that the towns and country will pull together, and always at the same time and in the same way. They are as two integral parts of one system or whole, both working separately and in their own way, but in the same direction. Had the towns or boroughs waited for enfranchisement until the counties were ready, we had waited until now, and how much longer I cannot say. Nor must we, and many other little towns, have a second infliction of purgatorial suffering through the suggestions either of your private correspondent or the Educational Union. We have, as doubtless others also have, our own peculiar difficulties in this question, and I should like to suggest that your columns be opened for a few weeks to receive statements of those difficulties, so that in due time, and in the right place—namely, in the House of Commons—when the bill is in Committee, they may be gathered up and disposed of.

I will not further trespass on your space, except to say that, if your correspondent will only remember that every little country parish, with perhaps its fifty or one hundred ratepayers, sends one guardian, and would on his principle send one member to the board—and that one in almost, nay, I might say in every case, the parson, and we, with our 8,000, only send but three,—he will find there would be no equality in the constitution of the board to commence with; for we should have a board three-fourths parsons, and it need not be said what would be the character of the teaching imparted by a board so constituted. Surely he must belong to that fraternity; if not, he will change his views at once. Other matters I will leave for the present. Perhaps some one more able will take them up.

Yours,

W. B. BEMBRIDGE.

THE FARINGDON INFANT-SCHOOL.

To the Editor of the Nonconformist.

SIR,—As a Nonconformist of Faringdon, I thank you for inserting the letter sent by the Rev. T. C. Udall, of this town, and also for your very pertinent remarks in the postscript to that of the Rev. H. Barne, the vicar. With regard to the rule in connection with the infant-school complained of by the Nonconformists, and defended by the vicar, I would remark that, in spite of the earnest remonstrances of the various Nonconformist ministers of the town during the last eight years, as also on two occasions by the British School Committee, it has been continued. What value can we set upon the professions of friendship and brotherhood made the vicar in his letter in your last issue? As he so readily quotes Scripture, allow me also to do so: "Let us love not in word only, but in deed and in truth." It is certainly very cool of the vicar to defend, and seek to perpetuate, a wrong, and then complain of unkindness on the part of his Christian brethren who seek to have it altered. Cheap sympathy is very easily excited by making oneself a martyr.

Several working men are now keeping their children from the advantages of the infant-school simply because they will not be forced to submit to such an obnoxious rule. Every Dissenting Sunday-school in the town has to suffer in consequence. In the coming struggle on the Education Bill, we, in these small country towns, look for support to the Nonconformists in the cities and boroughs to fight our battles: for where the squirearchy and clergy are dominant, we must be protected by the strong arm of the law.

I am, Sir, yours, &c.,

A FARINGDON NONCONFORMIST.
Faringdon, Berks, April 4, 1870.

LONDON UNIVERSITY.—The new building of the University of London, in Burlington-gardens, will be opened by the Queen in person on Wednesday, May 11. Her Majesty, accompanied by the Prince and Princess of Wales and the Princess Louise, will be received at the entrance of the building by the Chancellor (Lord Granville), the Vice-Chancellor (Mr. Grote), the member for the university (the Chancellor of the Exchequer), and the Chairman of Convocation (Dr. Storrar), and be conducted to the Senate-room, from whence Her Majesty will pass to the larger rooms in the building, and finally to the large theatre, where an address will be presented. The Queen will then declare the building opened, and leave by the principal entrance. As many visitors as can conveniently be accommodated in different portions of the building will be invited, including the Premier, some of the Secretaries of State, the Lord President of the Council, representatives from the sister universities, the learned bodies and affiliated colleges, with the examining staff of the university.

Parliamentary Intelligence.

HOUSE OF LORDS.

REPRESSION OF CRIME IN IRELAND.

On Thursday the House went into committee on the Peace Preservation (Ireland) Bill. Lord CLANRICARDE complained of the organisation of the Irish Constabulary as a quasi-military force, ill-adapted to the detection of crime. Lord DUFFERIN said that successive Governments had refrained from altering the organisation of the Irish Constabulary, who had in many cases shown great ingenuity and activity in the detection of crime. Great exertions were being made to supplement their services by the establishment of an efficient detective force. It was inexpedient to enter into details, but the Government relied with confidence upon the police arrangements now being made for the repression and detection of crime in the disturbed districts.

The House went into committee on the bill, when several verbal and unimportant amendments, the greater part proposed by Lord DUFFERIN, were agreed to. A new clause (now Clause 19) was agreed to, which enacts that the Lord Lieutenant may, by notice, revoke licences to have or carry arms in a specially proclaimed district.

When the press clauses were reached, Lord LYNDEN said it was assumed that seditious articles were abundant in the Irish press, but only two had been quoted by the Chancellor of the Duchy in moving the second reading, and those from one and the same journal. Lord GRANVILLE thought that Lord Dufferin had exercised a proper discretion in not reading more seditious quotations than were absolutely necessary. Their Lordships must all be aware of the seditious character of certain Irish newspapers, and that the only effect of obtaining a conviction against these journals was an increase in their circulation. He admitted that it was humiliating to be obliged to submit these press clauses to Parliament for adoption, but the Government acted under an overpowering sense of public duty. The Duke of ABERCORN vigorously defended the clauses, which his own experience in the Viceroyalty had shown to be necessary. A great portion of the population of the south and west of Ireland read no other journals but such as excited a seditious spirit. Lord DUNSMY bore testimony, as a resident landlord, to the injury resulting from the seditious appeals of the Fenian Press.

On Clause 29, which enacts that newspapers printed or published in Ireland, and containing treasonable or seditious matter, may be seized, Lord DUFFERIN moved an addition, that where any newspaper printed elsewhere than in Ireland, and containing such matter, is published or circulated in Ireland, the copies of such newspaper, wherever found, shall be equally seizable and forfeited to Her Majesty. Lord SALISBURY asked whether under the words "wherever found" the *Times* might not be seized if it contained among its Irish news seditious quotations from the Fenian Press. The Lord CHANCELLOR thought that nothing would justify a seizure of newspapers in England under an Act applying only to Ireland. A Noble Lord remarked that the *Times* containing such extracts would certainly, under the clause, be seizable in Ireland. The Clause, with the addition proposed, was agreed to.

Clause 38, giving power to the grand jury to present compensation, was amended, and Clause 39 omitted.

The bill having gone through committee, the standing orders were dispensed with, and the bill was read a third time and passed.

Their Lordships adjourned at ten minutes past seven o'clock.

On Friday Lord CLANRICARDE moved the first reading of his Bankruptcy Law Amendment (Ireland) Bill, which places non-traders in Ireland on the same footing with traders. The second reading was postponed until May 2.

The Peace Preservation (Ireland) Bill came up from the Commons. On the motion of Lord GRANVILLE, the House did not insist upon the amendment to which the Commons had disagreed.

Their Lordships adjourned at twenty minutes past five.

The House held a formal sitting on Saturday, in order that the Royal assent might be given by commission to the Peace Preservation (Ireland) Bill. It appeared, however, that by some oversight the House of Commons had adjourned until Monday, and, as the Royal assent could not be given in the absence of the Lower House, their Lordships at once adjourned.

On Monday the Royal assent was given to the Peace Preservation (Ireland), Coinage, Mutiny, and Marine Mutiny Bills. The Commissioners were the Lord Chancellor, Viscount Sydney, and Lord de Tabley.

A motion for a return proposed by Lord Penzance led to a rather interesting conversation upon the subject of the exercise of the Royal prerogative of mercy under the advice of the Home Secretary; and a fragment of the state-of-Ireland question was raised by the Marquis of Clanricarde in asking for copies of certain reports presented to the Irish Government. Both returns were refused by the Government, and no division took place upon either subject. The House adjourned at seven o'clock.

HOUSE OF COMMONS.

On Wednesday Mr. M'LAREN gave notice that on the motion for the second reading of the Edinburgh Annuity Tax Abolition (No. 2) Amendment Bill, he should move that it be read that day six months.

* "A Jubilee Memorial of Incidents in the Rise and Progress of the Bible Christian Connexion." G. J. Stevenson, 54, Paternoster-row. (1865.)

Mr. C. FORSTER moved the second reading of the measure for abolishing the forfeiture of the property of persons convicted of felony. No one objected to allow the bill to pass this stage; but as Mr. Jessel, Mr. O. Morgan, and the Home Secretary were of opinion that it would be necessary to enlarge its scope, it was, after being read a second time, referred to a select committee.

PARTY PROCESSIONS (IRELAND) ACT.

Mr. W. JOHNSTON, in moderate terms, moved the second reading of the Irish Party Processions Act, and his example was imitated by Viscount CRICHTON, who seconded the motion. The noble lord and the member for Belfast founded their opposition to the existing Act on the ground that it had operated unjustly, and had imposed especial hardships upon the Protestants of the North of Ireland, from which Roman Catholics were free. Mr. C. FORSTER did not go the length of admitting the soundness of these objections, but he acknowledged that the Party Processions Act had not worked satisfactorily, and he was therefore prepared to assent to its repeal. At the same time, it would be necessary that processions should be subject to some regulations; and he therefore promised that after Easter he will introduce a bill which shall deal with the subject in such a manner as to do no injustice to either Protestants or Roman Catholics. This announcement by the Chief Secretary was received with general expressions of approval; but Lord C. HAMILTON was not content to allow the discussion to close without impugning the manner in which Liberal Governments had applied the Party Processions Act in Ireland. To him Mr. Downes felt it necessary to reply, and some allusions to the course pursued by the Administration of the Duke of Abercorn, especially to the conviction of Mr. Johnston, drew a rejoinder from Colonel W. PATTEN and Mr. VANCE. Mr. MC CARTHY DOWNING was the first member to express serious doubts as to the policy of the Government in assenting to the second reading of the bill; but few, if any, hon. gentlemen who addressed the House appeared disposed to share his apprehensions. In the discussion which followed, and which was prolonged for some time, Mr. G. H. MOORE congratulated the English members upon the circumstance that after they had been compelled to assist at the performance of the serious dramas of the Church Bill, the Land Bill, and the Coercion Bill, and the lighter interludes of Captain Cootie and Mr. Madden, they now had the opportunity of witnessing the presentation by the Irish *corps de ballet* of the graceful evolutions of "Orange and Green"; and Mr. SAUNDERSON raised a laugh by informing the House that, in his neighbourhood, the Orange manifestations were confined to the beating of big drums within the houses, and that when he asked a peasant who was engaged in this occupation why he pursued it, the reply was that "it drove terror into the Papists." In the end, the bill was read a second time, without a division.

Sir J. GRAY (seconded by Mr. GRAVES) moved the second reading of a bill to amend the Medical Acts of 1858, chiefly by making better provision for clinical examinations; but on Mr. FORSTER intimating that the Privy Council is preparing a bill on the subject, the debate was adjourned for a month.

The Attorneys and Solicitors' Remuneration Bill was considered in Committee, and on Clause 5 an amendment moved by Sir J. TRELAWAY, to deprive solicitors of their lien on deeds entrusted to their custody, was rejected by 95 to 10.

Some other orders were forwarded a stage, and the House adjourned at ten minutes before six o'clock.

On Thursday Mr. COGAN gave notice that when Mr. Newdegate proposes to appoint the Select Committee upon convents and monastic institutions he shall move the discharge of the order.

Mr. GLADSTONE was able to hold out to Mr. GRAVES so much hope that the Chancellor of the Exchequer will be able to consent to such a reduction of the inland postage upon printed matter and newspapers as he has recommended, that the member for Liverpool abandoned his intention to bring the subject under the notice of the House.

Mr. OTWAY stated that no measure for the amendment of the neutrality laws can be brought in during the present session.

Mr. AYRTON informed the House that he has required Mr. Barry to deposit in the Office of Works certain plans and drawings relating to the alteration of the Palace of Westminster, which have been paid for with public money.

Mr. CARDWELL intimated that a vote will be asked this year for the commencement of the building of a new War Office, in which the whole administration of the army may be conducted under the same roof.

SUFFRAGAN BISHOPS.

In reply to Mr. Bowring on the subject of suffragan bishops, the PRIME MINISTER made the following statement:—

Two suffragan bishops have been appointed, one in the diocese of Lincoln, a very large diocese and one in which there is a large number of clergy, and the other in the diocese of Canterbury, where the demands upon the time and thought of the Archbishop, quite independently of that attack which to the grief of the whole country—(cheers)—has lately interfered with the discharge of his duties, were such as to constitute the case of that diocese a special one; and it is right that it should be known that the application for the appointment of a suffragan was made before the illness of the Archbishop. (Hear, hear.) As to the second part of the question, which rather assumes that the number of suffragan bishops is to be increased, I have to say that I have not heard of any probability of their multiplication. Every application has to be considered on its own merits and with reference to the special grounds which Her Majesty's Government would expect that any bishop applying for a suffragan should be able to produce. As to the funds from which the suffragan

bishops are to be paid, our information is rather limited, because that is a matter entirely arranged by the Bishop with the suffragan in cases where the appointment is made. No demand would in any case be made upon any public fund whatsoever, whether I speak of funds under the control of this House or of funds under the control of the Ecclesiastical Commissioners. My hon. friend asks if it is the intention of the Government to propose any alteration in the present law, whereby twenty-six suffragan bishops may be appointed. It is not the intention of the Government to propose any such alteration. Indeed, the exceeding difficulty of proposing to Parliament any plan for the extension of the Episcopate, combined with the general acknowledgment which Parliament has repeatedly given of the need of increased episcopal assistance, very greatly contributed to bring the Government to the conclusion that they would best fulfil their duty by availing themselves of the means which the present law already affords. Nor do we take that view of the law which the question of my hon. friend expresses; for he has parenthetically intimated that the selection of suffragan members of the episcopal body practically rests altogether in the hands of the individual archbishop or bishop applying for the appointment of a suffragan. Now, in the first place I must say that it is only in a very qualified sense, that suffragan bishops can be said to be members of the episcopal body, inasmuch as they not only have no right to sit in Parliament, but they have also no statutable recognition beyond the power of acting for the bishop. They have no jurisdiction whatever belonging to them; and if we suppose the case of the sudden death of a diocesan bishop, in that case, if we had appointed a suffragan, the functions of that suffragan would lapse altogether, and he would become incapable of legally performing any episcopal act in virtue of his commission as suffragan. Then my hon. friend seems to think that the appointment of the suffragan is altogether in the hands of the individual archbishop or bishop. According to the view of the Government, that is not quite correct. It is quite true that the Act stipulates that two names shall be forwarded, whereof Her Majesty shall select one, but this obligation admits of some modification, because Acts of Parliament are not, generally speaking, compulsory on the Crown. It is therefore in the power of the Executive Government to require to know who is the person intended to be proposed as a suffragan in any given case before consenting to entertain the question at all. They have therefore a control much beyond what would appear to be conveyed by the simple intimation that of the two names to be supplied by the archbishop or bishop one shall be selected. I quite feel that it is desirable that general rules applicable to proceedings under the Act should be embodied, if possible, in some official shape, so as to show that they are not dictated by random considerations from time to time, and as soon as the pressure of public business will allow of it, we shall apply ourselves to the consideration of the best mode of embodying the views we entertain on the subject, and of bringing them within the cognisance and consideration of Parliament. (Hear, hear.)

PUBLIC BUSINESS.

Mr. WHITTHREAD'S inquiry as to the day on which the Government intended to bring in the Ballot Bill drew from the PREMIER a general statement as to the business of the House, and the steps which the Government propose to take for facilitating its despatch. He divided the bills introduced or promised into three groups. In the first he placed the Irish Land Bill, which the Government would use every effort, and appeal in every way to the indulgence of the House, to press forward as rapidly as possible; next the English Education Bill, which they were most anxious should go rapidly forward; and next the University Tests Bill and a bill founded on the report of the Elections Procedure Committee, which they were desirous to introduce and pass into law if possible. In the second group were the Naturalisation Bill, and a measure on Irish matrimonial jurisdiction, which it was necessary should be passed this session; and in the third he included the miscellaneous measures in the Queen's Speech, about which no arrangement could now be made. Mr. Gladstone then went on to impress on the House the extreme importance of sending the Irish Land Bill up to the Lords in good time, and strengthening this plea by a reminder that its progress had already been interrupted for a week by the Coercion Bill, he appealed to the House to assist the Government by "morning sittings" every Tuesday and Friday until the Easter holidays, which, he said (in answer to Lord JOHN MANNERS), would commence on the 12th inst. The alternative he held out—which was received by the House with an unanimous groan—was to curtail the Easter holidays; but he added this consolation that, if his appeal were granted, in all probability it would not be necessary to resort to morning sittings after Easter—at least, not till the usual time. Finally, if the occupation clauses only were finished before Easter, he proposed to divide the bill into two—to send the first up to the Lords immediately, and then to go on with the clauses relating to ownership. At the close of the sitting he intimated he should move that the House sit next day at two o'clock.

Mr. DISRAELI protested strongly against beginning morning sittings so early in the session, and this he did in the interest of private members, whose privileges had been already largely encroached upon, and in the interests of England and Scotland, for which legislation would thus be made impossible. He pointed out, too, it would be difficult to obtain the attendance of legal and commercial members, and that the clauses could not be considered with sufficient care and fulness at morning sittings.

Mr. C. BENTINCK followed up this protest by reminding the House that in former years morning sittings had never been resorted to before the middle of May, and he asked how members were to attend in the House and on the committees upstairs at the same time. This point was also taken up by Mr. WARD HUNT, who stated that every committee-room was now occupied, and also that quarter sessions

would be going on at this time; by Mr. BOUVERIE, who urged some consideration for the officers of the House; and by Sir G. GREY, who admitted there was great force in it, and suggested an escape from the difficulty by allotting the morning hours to private members and the evening to the Government. Mr. CANDLISH raised a storm of disapprobation by suggesting Saturday sittings. The discussion became complicated and confused by a suggestion originally made by Lord JOHN MANNERS that the House should decide at once whether it would consent to morning sittings. Two or three motions were made with this object. Finally, no decision was arrived at, and the conversation was dropped with a protest from Mr. DISRAELI against the discourtesy of the Premier, to which Mr. GLADSTONE retorted that he had borrowed the "morning sitting" from Mr. DISRAELI himself.

THE IRISH LAND BILL.

The House then went into committee on the Irish Land Bill, resuming in the middle of Clause 1.

An amendment was discussed for some time, having been moved by Mr. CORRANCE, to secure that when the landlord has bought out his tenant's right under the Ulster custom, the holding shall not fall under the provisions of the third clause. It was opposed strongly by Mr. GLADSTONE and Mr. CHESTER FORTESCUE, who laid it down broadly that every tenant must be protected either by the Ulster custom or by statute, and wherever the custom is extinguished—no matter by whose act—the tenant must come under Clause 3. On the other hand, it was urged by Colonel BARTELOT, Mr. HARDY, and others that the landlord might have to compensate the tenant twice over—to which the Government replied that under the equities clause the court would prevent any such injustice. Ultimately the amendment was negatived by 133 to 78.

Mr. WILLIAM JOHNSTON next moved an amendment, providing that an Ulster tenant may transfer himself to Clause 3 on giving up his rights under the custom. After a long discussion it was accepted by the Government, with the modification that the transfer shall be with the consent of the court, that the choice once made must be adhered to, and that his holding shall for ever after be taken out of the Ulster custom.

Mr. M'LAGAN proposed to add at the end of the clause a provision for the extinction of the Ulster custom by a lease for thirty-one years. On the question that the clause stand part of the bill, Mr. CHARLEY attempted to renew a discussion of the Ulster custom by objecting to the legalising of it, but meeting with no support, he did not persevere, and Clause 1 was then agreed to, after having been discussed close on twelve hours.

At the commencement of Clause 2, which relates to tenant-rights other than Ulster, Mr. GLADSTONE proposed to insert words providing that wherever out of Ulster there exist usages corresponding in all essential particulars with the Ulster custom, they shall have the same legal validity, and shall be enforceable in the same manner. As to the rest of the clause, Mr. Gladstone invited the committee to express its opinion on it, but declined at present to commit himself to any recommendation. Much exception was taken to the vagueness of the amendment by Mr. WALPOLE, Mr. BOUVERIE, and others, who apprehended that it would lead to litigation; but the principal objection raised was on the matter of form, Mr. Hunt, Mr. Hardy, Dr. Ball, and others urging that the amendment ought to form a clause by itself. Mr. GLADSTONE, however, refused to take this course, and after an hour and a half had been wasted in a somewhat heated discussion on this point of procedure, it was brought to a close in the usual way by motions to report progress. The first was defeated by 271 to 186, to the second Mr. Gladstone gave way.

The motion made by Mr. GLADSTONE to fix the Committee for the next day at two o'clock revived the controversy of the early part of the evening. Mr. C. BENTINCK, goaded by the laughter and derisive interruptions of the Ministerialists into language which Mr. GLADSTONE characterised as "licentious," again protested against morning sittings at this early period; and Mr. GLADSTONE, in replying, showed a disposition to accept Sir G. Grey's suggestion to exchange the morning for the evening hours with the private members. The previous question was moved by Mr. J. LOWTHER, and defeated by 269 to 172; after which the motion that the committee be resumed at two o'clock was agreed to.

Some other orders were forwarded a stage, and the House adjourned at a quarter past one o'clock.

PEACE PRESERVATION (IRELAND) BILL.

At the morning sitting on Friday the Lords' amendments to this bill were considered. They were all agreed to except two: one which permits the grand juries to distribute the compensation for outrages among the next of kin of the victims, and another which gives an appeal to the judge when the grand jury declines to assess compensation. Mr. GLADSTONE pointed out that these were invasions of the Commons' initiative in the matter of taxation, and the House consequently disagreed with them.

IRISH LAND BILL.

The House then resumed the committee on the Irish Land Bill at Clause 2 (dealing with tenant-rights out of Ulster), and the words which Mr. GLADSTONE on Thursday proposed to insert at its commencement—giving the force of law to all customs out of Ulster which correspond in essential particulars to the Ulster tenant-right—were agreed to at once. Sir JOHN GRAY proposed to omit the rest of the original clause, which was done, after Mr. GLADSTONE had stated that the other tenant-rights would be covered by Clause 6. On the question that

the clause, as amended, stand part of the bill, it was objected that the amendments amounted in fact to a new clause, and that there had thus been a colourable evasion of the rule which prevents new clauses being brought up until the end of the bill. After a lively passage between Mr. GLADSTONE and Mr. WARD HUNT, the Government yielded to this objection, and Clause 2 was struck out, to be brought up again at the end of the bill.

At the commencement of Clause 3, which provides for compensation in the absence of custom, there was a long conversation, the upshot of which was to lay down that the clause applies only to prospective tenancies, and to all tenants, whether under lease or otherwise, who are not protected by the lease for thirty-one years, with other conditions sanctioned by the bill.

Mr. CORRANCE moved an amendment limiting compensation for disturbance to eviction or notice to quit by the landlord, and he was supported by Mr. HEADLAM, who had also given notice of an amendment to provide that a landlord resuming possession at the end of a lease shall not be held to "disturb" the tenancy. In opposition to it Mr. GLADSTONE urged that it would destroy the bill, as it would enable landlords to deprive tenants of all claim to compensation by granting leases of a year and a day. Dr. BALL and Mr. HUNT insisted on the necessity of a strict definition of the term "disturbance." Mr. W. FOWLER objected to the clause that, though it was a proper protection for the small tenants, it was quite inapplicable to the substantial men who could make their own contracts. After some further discussion, Mr. CORRANCE agreed to allow the decision of the committee to be given on Mr. Headlam's amendment at a future stage.

Mr. CHICHESTER FORTESCUE then moved to insert the first of a series of amendments to separate more clearly damages for eviction from damages for improvements other than permanent improvements.

Dr. BALL delivered a powerful protest against this change, which he maintained was an enlargement of the original scope of the bill. Originally the sliding scale contemplated a combination of damages for eviction and for the loss of improvements, but now it was proposed to give damages for the termination of every tenancy short of a thirty-one years' lease, entirely apart from every other consideration. This he described as the introduction of a tremendous principle, which must be extended to England and Scotland, and which must even spread to other relations besides those of landlord and tenant, and he complained earnestly that so important a change should be introduced affecting the principle of the bill under the guise of an amendment.

Mr. GLADSTONE replied that the innovation originated solely in Dr. Ball's mistaken conception of the bill, for the Government had always construed it as giving compensation for eviction, and he had stated in his speech on the second reading that an amendment of this sort would be necessary.

Mr. DISRAELI asked why it was necessary to alter the clause if the Government had not changed their original intention. He agreed with Dr. Ball that the amendment was a complete revolution in the bill, and he complained that Mr. Gladstone had departed from his representations of the character of the measure, on the faith of which the Opposition had consented to the second reading.

Sir ROUNDELL PALMER suggested that as the particular words under discussion were immaterial and mere surplusage, the amendment should be agreed to, and the decision on the vital principle at issue taken subsequently, on an amendment of which Mr. Disraeli had given notice. This suggestion was adopted, and the further progress of the committee was adjourned.

TRINITY COLLEGE, DUBLIN.

At the evening sitting, at seven o'clock, on the motion for going into Committee of Supply, Mr. FAWCETT brought forward his long-pending motion regarding Trinity College, Dublin. In the first place he asked the House to express its satisfaction with the recent memorial presented to the Premier by the authorities of the College in favour of undenominational academical education in Ireland, and his resolution went on to call upon the Government to give effect to it by introducing at the earliest opportunity a measure to free the honours and emoluments of the college from all religious disabilities. In order to provide a pledge that this concession would be real, he added that provision should be made for enabling Dissenters to obtain an adequate influence in the governing body within a reasonable time. Mr. FAWCETT expatiated forcibly on the advantages of mixed education, and eulogised highly the liberal policy of Trinity College, so much in advance of the English Universities. Discussing the alternatives to his resolution—viz., the dismemberment of Trinity College and the endowment of Catholic and Presbyterian Universities—he condemned them both in the strongest manner, arguing with regard to the last that after the Disestablishment Act of last year and the declaration of the Government in favour of making the English Universities' national and undenominational, it was utterly impossible for such a plan ever to be countenanced.

Mr. PLUNKET seconded the motion in a highly successful maiden speech. He began by assuring the House that the sole pledge with which he had been sent to Parliament was to resist the Ultramontane designs on Trinity College, and to extract from the Government an answer to the memorial of the Provost and Fellows, and he proceeded to give a history how the college had gradually done all that it could without the interference of Parliament to throw open its honours to all Dissenters. He drew a glowing picture of the social results of mixed education in the

University—the one bright spot in Ireland where religious hatred was unknown—the one institution thoroughly national and loyal. The college desired to carry this policy further, and they deprecated earnestly the establishment of a Catholic University. This was what was dreaded in Ireland, where there was a suspicion that an alliance existed between Mr. Gladstone and Cardinal Cullen, negotiated by Mr. Fortescue, after the type of the compact between Faust and Mephistopheles. If there was any truth in it—Mr. Plunket declared amid loud cheering—the Government was sailing under false colours. He believed any plan for placing the academical education of the country under the control of the Ultramontane section of the hierarchy was opposed to the feelings of the laity, who, however, did not dare to protest against it. He warned the House that this was the commencement of a system of governing Ireland through the Roman Catholic hierarchy, and concluded with a powerful appeal to the Prime Minister not to commit the fatal mistake of setting up an Ultramontane ascendancy in Ireland.

The O'CONNOR DON contrasted the memorial with the very different declarations of the Provost and Fellows a few years back, to show that they had not always been so liberal in their policy. He repudiated as an insult the insinuation that the Roman Catholic laity were under the domination of their priests. The system proposed by Mr. Fawcett was more repugnant to them than a purely Protestant college, and no settlement could be satisfactory which did not provide for the case of those who objected to mixed education on the Protestant system.

Mr. GLADSTONE began with a hearty compliment to Mr. Plunket, and congratulated himself that the sentiments that member had expressed were the first fruits of the Irish Church Act. As to the supposed compact with the Ultramontane section, he repudiated it altogether, referring Mr. Plunket to its former declaration, and to Sir G. Grey's letter in 1866 to the Roman Catholic bishops. He added, too, that recent events at Rome had made it impossible for a British statesman to make a nearer approach to the views of the Roman Catholic bishops. As to the motion, holding it to be the duty of the Government to reserve to themselves the most complete discretion on the subject, he would have moved the "previous question" had it been possible; but he should vote for its equivalent—"that the Speaker leave the chair," without giving any opinion as to the merits of Mr. Fawcett's motion. In support of this course Mr. Gladstone argued at great length—treating it as a question of confidence—that the Government, having been entrusted with the solution of the Irish question—of which academical education was an important branch—would be violating its duty if it allowed itself to be deprived of its initiative. Under similar pressure, Sir R. Peel, Lord Palmerston, and Lord Derby had peremptorily refused prematurely to disclose their intentions on questions which they had undertaken to deal with, and in like manner he refused to commit his Government in any way by accepting this resolution. He dwelt also on the inconvenience of opening another formidable controversy while they were engaged in settling the land question.

Mr. BRESFORD HOPE advised the Opposition not to support a motion which would embarrass them when the English Universities had to be dealt with.

Dr. BALL disclaimed all party spirit in the matter, and, indeed, any share in having brought it on for discussion, but he defended Mr. Fawcett's motives for challenging the opinion of the House. Admitting that the question was full of difficulties, he maintained that the solution proposed by the resolution was the only possible one, as the resources of the college and the extravagant demands of the Roman Catholic bishops made it impossible either to split the college up into denominational colleges or to establish a purely Catholic University.

Sir H. HOARE moved the adjournment of the debate, which gave rise to a lively altercation. Mr. HARDY and Mr. WARD HUNT, though opposed to the resolution, pleaded for an adjournment, as did Dr. PLAYFAIR and others on the same side, who wished for an opportunity to explain why they would oppose the Government after Mr. Gladstone had put the question as one of confidence. Mr. GLADSTONE opposed the motion, and pressed for an immediate decision, as it would be impossible to give a day for the renewal of the debate. Sir H. Hoare's motion was defeated by 232 to 96; but a second motion being made to adjourn the House at twenty minutes past one, Mr. Gladstone consented to it, and it was carried without a division. The House adjourned accordingly at twenty minutes past one o'clock.

On Monday Sir H. S. IBBETSON gave notice that to-morrow, in committee of the whole House, he would move for leave to introduce a bill to amend the Wine and Beerhouse Act of 1869. Mr. C. REED gave notice that on an early day after Easter he proposed to move a resolution on the subject of workmen's trains on railways. In answer to questions, Mr. GLADSTONE declined to offer any compensation to the widow of the late Mr. G. W. Gordon, of Jamaica, for the execution of her husband; and promised that before the adjournment of the House the Solicitor-General would fix an early day after Easter for the introduction of the University Tests Bill. Mr. MONRELL informed the House that the Government have under consideration the propriety of sending a small body of British troops to the Red River Settlement. The LORD ADVOCATE expressed the hope that he shall be able to bring in the Game Bill next Monday. The Marquis of HARTINGTON stated that, exclusive of messages from abroad, the Post Office forwarded, up to the 31st March, no less than

1,160,000 telegraphic messages. Mr. O. FORTESCUE informed Captain Stacpoole that there is no foundation for a report which has recently obtained circulation, that the Irish Education Commissioners have already presented their report to the Government; and the PREMIER intimated that he hopes to have to ask for no morning sitting next week.

IRISH LAND BILL.

The House then went into committee on this bill, resuming at Clause 3.

Mr. DISRAELI moved his important amendment, which limits compensation to unexhausted improvements and interruption in any course of husbandry suited to the holding, excluding altogether damages for simple determination of tenancy. He prefaced his motion by expressing his vexation at being unexpectedly called on to depart from the attitude of candid consideration which he and the Conservatives had hitherto observed towards the bill. But he was compelled to lead the Opposition to this part of the clause by the important changes made in the bill since it got into committee—the extension of the Ulster tenant-right all over Ireland, the dropping of Clause 16, which would have given the landlords power to bargain themselves out of the bill by a thirty-one years' lease, and now the proposed declaration that the simple termination of a tenancy is a moral wrong demanding compensation. He was ready to give all that justice required—viz., compensation for improvements, on a liberal scale, and, considering the circumstances of Ireland, he would extend it to interruption of a course of agriculture. But the new-fangled idea of the Government, to compensate for disturbance without reference to these points, would give every tenant a contingent remainder to one-third of the freehold. It was entirely opposed to the essential principles of our legislation, it was utterly unjustified by the necessities of Ireland, and would not satisfy the tenant farmers' clubs. Dilating on the grievous consequences of the adoption of this principle, Mr. Disraeli argued that it would create a new grievance, the payment of rent, because landlords, in self-defence, would permit no arrears to accumulate. It must be extended to England and Scotland, and it would not be confined to the relations of landlord and tenant.

The CHANCELLOR of the EXCHEQUER denied that there had been any change in the principle of the clause. It had always recognised compensation for disturbance, though originally it was mixed up with improvements, which had been found inconvenient. The legal right of the landlord to disturb was not ignored, but it was treated as a right liable to abuse, the unchecked exercise of which was a standing danger to Ireland, and raised the bitterest feelings between landlords and tenants. After showing how absurd it would be to confine compensation to the two items selected by Mr. Disraeli, he denied that the clause gave damages for eviction. He preferred to describe it as securing that if any tenant could show a loss on his tenancy being brought to a close he should be compensated for it, and the object, he admitted, was to put a check on the practice of eviction. So far from being an invasion of the rights of property, it would render property more secure and valuable; and as to the violation of political economy, which he defined to be the laws governing the accumulation of wealth, Mr. Lowe declared that it was not to promote the accumulation of wealth, but to save society, that the bill was brought in. Finally appealing to the committee not to pass the amendment, Mr. Lowe drew a sarcastic picture of what would happen to the Irish landlords handed over to the necessities of Mr. Disraeli with a "good working minority."

Mr. HARDY warmly retorted on Mr. Lowe by reminding him of his speech two years ago, when political economy, now thrown overboard, was recommended as the panacea for Irish evils. He followed up and enforced Mr. Disraeli's charge that the clause had been essentially changed by making the termination of tenancy alone a subject for damages, and complained particularly that the scale had not been lowered since the element of improvements had been taken out of it. Mr. Lowe, he contended, had misrepresented the character of the clause in assuming that the tenant had to show his loss; on the contrary, he started with a right to a *maximum* compensation of seven years' rent, and it was for the landlord to beat him down. The general result would be to put a stop to improving leases in Ireland.

Sir ROUNDELL PALMER, after protesting that he could not vote for Mr. Disraeli's amendment, accepted it as a very fitting occasion for the full discussion of the important principle which it raised. He agreed with Mr. Disraeli that the bill had been considerably altered in committee, and he acknowledged that he had not originally understood that a tenant on giving up his land at the end of his lease was to be compensated for the surrender. Then he went into an elaborate examination of the retrospective and prospective effects of the clause, and, with regard to the last, he maintained that it involved an interference with the freedom of contract which could only be justified by extreme necessity. But no necessity had been shown which could apply to holdings above a certain value or to *bonâ fide* leases for a definite duration—say for seven years. If the consideration of improvements was to be eliminated Sir Roundell held that the scale of damages was enormous, and he showed how it would complicate the working of the equities clause. The proposed removal of Clause 16, enabling the landlord to cover himself by a thirty-one years' lease, he strongly censured, and criticising the combined effect of these changes, he maintained that they would lead to an increase of rents, to accumulation of holdings, to landlords keeping holdings in their own hands, and

to all bargains being confined to thirty-one years' leases.

Mr. CHICHESTER FORTESCUE first vindicated the Government from the charge of having suddenly changed the principle of the clause, though he admitted that it had been liberalised, and a larger discretion had been given to the court. Replying to Sir Roundell Palmer's criticisms, he remarked that the Irish tenants would not object to increased rent if he got security of tenure, and he justified everything exceptional in the bill by the condition of Ireland, maintaining at the same time that this was the most moderate of all the remedies suggested.

Mr. C. S. READ strongly deprecated, in the interest of the tenant, the imposition of this new property of occupation upon him, and in a vigorous speech argued that the principle once established could not be refused to houses, shops, labourers' cottages, &c. Mr. C. BUXTON discussed the principle of the bill, which he described rather as a vindication than a violation of the rights of property, and entered into a long dissertation on ancient Irish tenures, to show that Irish tenants do not regard the holding of land as a matter of contract, but have inherited an idea that they have proprietary rights in the soil. Mr. BRODRICK held that to give the tenant a property in occupation would embitter the relations between landlord and tenant. Sir P. O'BRIEN discussed the recent Foreign Office reports on continental tenures, and Mr. KAVANAGH, having acknowledged the necessity of a check to eviction on the second reading, declined now to stultify himself by supporting the amendment. At the same time, he held the scale of compensation to be unwarrantably high, and that tenants over 100l. a year, who were quite able to take care of themselves, should not be included in it. Mr. H. MATTHEWS, as an advocate of security of tenure, had no faith in the machinery of a compensation clause for effecting it, expecting that the courts would give but slight compensation for so shadowy a right as that of occupation. Mr. WILLIAM FOWLER supported the clause as a protection for the smallest class of tenants. Mr. BRUEN maintained that security of tenure must depend on the good relations of landlord and tenant; Mr. MAQUIE advised the Government, if the amendment were carried, to drop the bill; and Mr. GOLDNEY supported the amendment.

Mr. GLADSTONE, before dealing with the amendment, stated that in place of Clause 16 (the thirty-one years' clause) he would propose to permit the landlord to give the tenant the right of disposing of his interest; and also that, in order to mark the exceptional character of the suspension of free contracts, that particular clause would be limited to twenty years, and, thereafter until Parliament should otherwise determine. The amendment showed that Mr. Disraeli had not been taken by surprise, as he alleged, because it was directed against the bill as it originally stood. It sought to break down one of the three great pillars of the bill, without which it would be a miserable ruin—viz., the principle that causeless eviction was a loss to the tenant, and ought to be laden with a charge so as to prevent the landlord from resorting to it. The loss to the tenant was the loss of his livelihood—the choice offered him "between America and the workhouse"—for which the clause laid down that he ought to be compensated. He denied that the clause interfered really with the rights of property, or if did it was to make property more secure; and in regard to its extension to England and Scotland, the bill had been studiously drawn to be exceptional and to be applicable to Ireland only.

Mr. DISRAELI wound up the debate, repeating his objections to the novel and mischievous character of the proposal.

On a division being taken the amendment was rejected by 296 to 220. The further progress of the bill was adjourned.

Several bills were forwarded a stage, and the House adjourned at a quarter to one o'clock.

THE GOVERNMENT EDUCATION BILL.

THE NONCONFORMIST MINISTERS AND THE BILL.

We are informed that Mr. Gladstone has appointed Monday, April 11, as the day on which he will receive the deputation appointed to present the protests against the "religious" clauses of the Education Bill. The deputation will consist of one or two ministers representing each denomination. We are requested to state that any minister who has not yet received copies of the protest and petition may procure them by applying immediately to the secretaries of the Nonconformist Central Committee, Town Hall Chambers, Birmingham.

A committee of London Nonconformist ministers and laymen has been formed for the purpose of watching the passing of the bill through committee, and arrangements are in progress for holding a large public meeting at St. James's Hall at an early date.

MEETING OF NONCONFORMISTS AT MANCHESTER.

A meeting of Protestant Nonconformists was held in the Free-trade Hall on Thursday night, "to protest against those clauses of the Government Education Bill which would authorise the teaching of religion in day schools supported by public taxation." The hall was crowded in every part, and many were unable to obtain seats. About 6,000 persons were present. Mr. Henry Lee occupied the chair, and he

was supported on the platform by more than fifty Nonconformist ministers belonging to the Wesleyan, Independent, Baptist, Presbyterian, Methodist, Free Church, Methodist Association, Primitive Methodist, Unitarian, and other denominations, including the following—the Revs. R. W. Dale, M.A.; H. W. Holland, J. A. Macfadyen, S. A. Steinthal, Watson Smith, D. J. Haines, D. W. Jordan, Marmaduke Miller, G. W. Conder, M.A.; Professor A. S. Wilkins, M.A.; Professor A. Goering, James Bedell, E. Morgan, A. Cran, M.A.; W. Jessop, E. Bowden, W. S. Willes, Robert Ashcroft, J. McCausland, B. Walker, Thos. Kench, J. Hutcheson, B.A.; T. C. Finlayson, T. M. Herbert, M.A.; H. E. Dowson, B.A.; A. Hall, D. McGregor, W. H. Herford, W. H. Walker, W. Harrison, J. W. Chisholme, A. B. Camm, W. B. Macwilliam, G. H. Brown, B.A.; S. S. Barton, James Barker, T. S. Aldie, M.A.; John Wheeldon. Amongst the laymen present were Messrs. Josh. Leese, J.P.; W. Armitage, Crossfield, E. H. Sharp, T. T. Hayes, J.P.; Alderman Rumney, J. Pidduck, — Rayner, of Ashton-under-Lyne; J. Porritt, and many others.

Mr. WILLIAM WARBURTON, honorary secretary to the committee, read a number of letters of apology which he had received from gentlemen who had found it impossible to attend. Dr. McKerron wrote that he would almost accept any measure, but that to have silently and tamely acquiesced in some of the principles and arrangements of Mr. Forster's bill would have been to dishonour the cause of truth and spiritual freedom, to allow the yoke of ecclesiastical intolerance which we have been gradually tossing from our necks to slip back to its old place and gall us as before. (Cheers.) Our Nonconformist demonstration convince Mr. Forster that he cannot canter over the religious difficulty, but he trusts that, instead of running the risk of breaking his neck, Mr. Forster will remove the stumbling-block out of the way. (Laughter and cheers.) Mr. Henry Richard, M.P., wrote: "I am very glad the Nonconformists of Manchester are bestirring themselves. I wish I could be with you." The Rev. William Arthur wrote: "It will not be in my power to be in Manchester on the 31st inst." Mr. Arthur approves generally "the Irish model school system." He regards the provisions in Mr. Forster's bill as to religious instruction as "wrong in principle, and menacing to the general peace." "In point of injustice to minorities, it seems to me to exceed anything that has gone before it." "No conscience clause is worth anything." (Cheers.) An arrangement for religious instruction at fixed hours by ministers and others is the only provision for religious freedom in a school where religion is taught." (Cheers.) Mr. Arthur concluded by saying, "I deprecate a purely secular system, but still more do I deprecate such a settlement of the religious difficulty as Mr. Forster proposes." (Cheers.) A working man writes, "I don't want my name mentioned, but I give it to you and my address, and I am prepared to prove the following fact, which will show the reason why we object and protest. I have a boy that goes to the National School, Blackley. A few weeks back he was asked, along with another boy, by their schoolmaster, 'What did your godfathers and godmothers promise for you?' They answered, 'Please, sir, we have none!' The master said, 'Stand out, and I will punish you!' (Shame.) Now, sir, we object to having our children punished for telling the truth, and being made a gazing stock to the rest of the children." ("Hear, hear," and cheers.) The Rev. W. Kirkus wrote:—"The more I think on the matter, and especially the more I read on the other side, the more convinced I am that it would be much better to let the education matter alone for a year or two than to yield on the side of these religious clauses. Even Liberal statesmen seem to have no notion of the depth of our convictions as to religious establishments in every form, and it is high time they were made to understand them." (Loud cheers.) The Rev. Alexander McLaren wrote: "I am very much disappointed that I cannot be present to join in the protest, in which I so heartily concur, against the provisions in the Government bill affecting religious education. I trust that you will have a good meeting, and succeed in the incomprehensibly difficult task of making official personages understand that Nonconformists object to having anybody's creed—their own included—(Hear, hear, and cheers.)—taught to either old or young at the public expense, and subject to legal regulations." The Rev. James Gwyther says "his voice would not permit him to take part, but that the petition exactly expresses his feeling, so far as it goes." Mr. Hugh Mason, who wrote that he was too unwell to come, said: "To my mind it is quite clear that we must not slacken in our agitation against what Lord Russell terms 'the real and very considerable grievance' which Mr. Forster's bill threatens to bring upon us. We have every reason to be encouraged with the development of public opinion on the question, since the bill came before the country, and I think by the time it gets into committee there will be more disposition shown (to use again Lord Russell's words) 'to conciliate us by justice, and not to overpower by numbers.'" (Cheers.) Mr. Mason subscribed 50l. towards the expenses of the committee.

The CHAIRMAN, after some preliminary remarks, said it was clear that the two parties opposed to each other on the present question were the Conformists on the one hand, and the Nonconformists on the other hand. Although, to their honour it should be said, a large number of Liberal Churchmen had come forward to give that religious equality which many others would deny. The Nonconformists held that the Government bill, in its present shape, re-enacted the Church-rate, and would foster religious animosities; it trampled upon the rights of con-

science, and enabled the offering of educational advantages, with distinctive religious teaching, at the expense of the whole body of the ratepayers. They were not assembled to say hard words about the Government of this country. They had confidence in it—(cheers)—as the most enlightened, the most liberal, the most just, and the most honest Government they had had for many a day. (Renewed cheers.) And though they might, whilst looking at the bill brought in by Mr. Forster, say many things respecting it which might perhaps give pain, yet they believed that in its effects that bill was a consequence of the situation, and not because of the principles which they professed; and they believed that the Government which brought in that great law which gave religious equality to Ireland would not be the Government that would fasten upon the necks of the people religious inequality. (Renewed cheering.) The Nonconformists simply needed to give expression to their opinion as such, and show that they were in earnest; and he doubted not that the Government would yet modify the measure so as to be acceptable to the whole community. A charge had been brought against the Nonconformists that they were obstructive in the way of wise legislation. But to that he would reply that there was even now a prospect of a change taking place as to the Government bill, because, from the expressions which fell from Mr. Gladstone, the Education Union Committee were beginning to find out that it was better to defer the measure than to accept it upon the principles which they gathered from Mr. Gladstone's speech would be introduced into it. They said, "This committee, fearing that serious practical difficulties will arise from the amendment shadowed forth by Mr. Gladstone as to the conscience clause, trust the Government will take time for consideration before determining upon such an amendment." That was, in fact, all the Nonconformists asked; for it was not a light matter that a great principle like that of religious equality should be passed over. People said that if the matter was left alone all would come right; but past experience of such things pointed to the contrary, and it could not be doubted that it would be better to wait and work, so that the measure might stand upon a firm basis, rather than have it enacted with its present defects. Nor were they the only persons who were of that opinion, for even the Bishop of Winchester had said:—"As Christian men we cannot buy concord at the price of truth; but if we would bring every man of this people into our noble communion by the sacrifice of one word of God's truth, it would be death to do it even if we could." It was alleged that the Nonconformists were endeavouring to foster sectarian jealousy, and that they were jealous of the position the Church of England had acquired, and were taking the present opportunity of reducing her influence. But they met, not as sectarians, but as the advocates of a great principle which would not die with the Education Bill, even if carried. As to the charge laid against them, that they were guilty of religious indifference, and that they were a godless set of people, now let them take certain acknowledged tests by which they ought to be tried on that point. Challenging, say a thousand Churchmen, and comparing them with a thousand Dissenters, he averred that, on the question of payment, that the latter paid more for their religion than the Church people paid for theirs, taking the average; whilst, on the other hand, there was no doubt that many Church people went to church because it was cheap to do so. For personal evangelistic work, too, for the interests of the cause of the Gospel, and religious enthusiasm in places of worship, the Dissenters would always contrast advantageously with the Church of England. (Cheers and some cries of "No.") Might he not also remind them of the personal zeal of the ministry of Whitfield, of Spurgeon, and a host more that he could name who had left their mark upon this country, and to whom they were indebted for their religious life? The Sunday-schools of Nonconformists were also the most popular. (Hear, hear.) Was it not a fact that in rural districts a bribe was given to the children to attend Church Sunday-schools? It was also a well-known fact that the Dissenting Sabbath-schools among the working classes were more popular than those of the Church. Where did they find the largest number of religious working men? Were they to be found in connection with the Church? ("No, no," and cries of "Yes" from the extremity of the hall.) Let the Church show them their local preachers. (Hear, hear.) Was it not true that at the present time the Church were trying to draw more closely the laity to them, and they were continually mourning that the present system of Church government prevented them from availing themselves of the services of the laity. But the Nonconformists must have patience to await their time, which was coming. They must have earnestness in endeavouring to carry on the work in which they were engaged, and then they would have in this country at some future time, perhaps in the lifetime of those present, the most perfect evangelical alliance, when in things essential they would have unity, in things non-essential liberty, and in all things charity. (Loud cheers.)

The Rev. J. A. MACFADYEN, M.A. (Independent), moved the first resolution, which was as follows:—

That this meeting, representing the several Nonconformist bodies, strongly protests against the proposal of the Government Education Bill to give to local boards power to determine the religion to be taught in schools to be supported by public taxation; because such proposal would be a practical adoption of the unjust and irreligious principle of concurrent endowment, establish a new form of religious taxation, not less objectionable than Church-rates, and give occasion to sectarian conflicts most injurious to the social harmony and religious wellbeing of the community.

The speaker, in a characteristically humorous ad-

dress, dwelt upon the fact that the stumbling-block in the way of the settlement of the education question was not the "religious," but the "establishment," difficulty.

The resolution was seconded by the Rev. H. W. HOLLAND, of Birmingham (Wesleyan), and carried almost unanimously. About a dozen hands at the end of the hall, and one or two in the side galleries, were, amid laughter and hisses, held up against it.

The Rev. R. W. DALE, M.A., of Birmingham (Independent), moved the second resolution, which was as follows:—

That this meeting protests against power being conferred upon local boards to enforce the attendance of children at denominational schools under the ineffective protection of a conscience clause, which would require British citizens to claim toleration in schools supported by national money, believing such contrivance to be not only unjust and insulting, but that it must inevitably fail to remove the religious difficulty. And this meeting would insist that in all schools established or supported by local rates, the instruction given should be absolutely unsectarian.

He expressed his regret to see the announcement made by Mr. Gladstone, in the House of Commons, on Tuesday, that it was probable that the Government Bill would not go into committee before the end of May; because, in his judgment, there was urgent need for fresh and vigorous legislation in order to promote the elementary education of the people. Quoting Mr. Fearon's report on the condition of elementary education in Manchester, laid before the House of Commons a few days ago, it appeared that the number of children of the poorer classes requiring elementary education in this city was, according to the lowest estimate, 53,271, whilst the number on the rolls of all schools attended by that class of scholars was 40,974, leaving a deficiency of about 13,000. If that were the whole number of children between the ages of five and thirteen years who were receiving no day-school education, there would be reason enough for accepting almost any measure which would secure for them even the elements and rudiments of instruction. But that did not at all represent the real state of the case, even according to Mr. Fearon's own report, for there should be deducted from the number quoted the number of young persons in night schools (not between the ages specified), 3,341, and the children attending schools which, in Mr. Fearon's judgment, were unfit for elementary tuition, 1,750. According to the same official report, it appeared that in all inspected schools the average number of children under five was 14.85 per cent. of the whole number in attendance; so that, in common justice, when speaking of the education of children between five and thirteen in Manchester, 14 per cent. should be taken from those whose names were on the school rolls, or 5,000; and taking the number in elementary schools over thirteen years of age, 4.45 per cent., there would be 1,600 more to be deducted, making a total deduction of 6,900. So that there were not fewer, taking these figures and deductions together, than 24,288 who were receiving in Manchester no day-school education whatsoever. In the presence of these figures, he confessed it was with great pain and reluctance, and not until after the gravest consideration, that he felt himself justified in offering the slightest impediment to the passing of Mr. Forster's bill; and he could almost sacrifice anything to bring education within the reach of those unhappy children, feeling that the community had a right to call them to a strict account when they ventured to cast themselves across the progress of any measure having that object. He trusted that the hostility provoked towards the measure would after all not delay its passing into law, but simply secure the necessary amendments to it. The grounds on which they opposed it were, because it appeared to them to violate those great principles of religious liberty which had been especially committed to their trust as Nonconformists, and because they dared not, at whatever peril to themselves or others, be unfaithful to those principles. That was the ground they took. They were told that the bill contained a stringent conscience clause, by which every parent could protect his children from receiving any religious teaching by which his own conscience would be violated, and that the universal willingness of the clergy to accept the conscience clause was a remarkable proof of the fairness and justice with which they were prepared to deal with the question. But it could not be forgotten that many of the clergy had resisted the conscience clause for thirty years in schools supported partly by the public funds, insisting that children should not be taught to read unless to learn the Church catechism and attend the Church Sunday-schools. Now, the concession of the clergy ought to be accompanied by an acknowledgment of the intolerance of which they had been guilty during the last thirty years; for he had very little faith in repentance without a frank confession of sin; and he was astonished that statesmen had not more firmly condemned them for refusing to accept a conscience clause so long, and questioned them a little closer as to their strange conversion to the principle of a conscience clause. Now, the real worth of a conscience clause was little, if any at all. Appealing to what had been said by a large number of the English clergy, and even by the Education Union, that though the conscience clause had been in operation in schools for ten or twenty years, scarcely a Nonconformist had availed himself of it in order to secure the protection of his child, he thought that was a proof that the alleged protection was unavailing and useless. Even Mr. Gladstone had declared that the historical experience of a conscience clause had not been satisfactory, and had indicated his willingness to accept what was called a time-table clause, under which religious instruction in all schools receiving public aid should be separated from the ordinary subjects of day-school instruction. So far as the existing denominational schools were concerned, he did not think

they could ask more than Mr. Gladstone in that speech had conceded. But so long as denominations continued to find a part of the cost of the building and maintaining schools by voluntary subscriptions, the right to demand a price for the service rendered to the State could not be withdrawn; but when the subscription disappeared, then the right founded thereupon must disappear also, and when churches ceased to be relied upon for schools, they must surrender the prerogative of having their creeds taught in the schools that might be built. They objected to having the machinery created by public funds—to which the ratepayers were bound to contribute—employed in order to maintain the doctrine and opinions of any particular sect. He quite admitted within certain limits the rights of majorities, but there were rights which no power could be permitted to invade, and amongst these were the rights which were invaded by Mr. Forster's bill. He also admitted the benefit in certain cases of local government, but the power of local government should be limited by the empire in the interests of the people. There were multitudes of instances in which Nonconformist children had been refused education if they would not submit to the theological teaching of the clergy. He, for his part, refused to trust in the fairness of vast numbers of the English clergy. He believed that as a matter of religious duty they used every power which their position invested them with for the suppression of Nonconformity. Either the power granted would be used or it would not. If not, why grant it, and if it would, then it ought not to be granted. (Cheers.) He trusted the Liberal Government would not shrink from the amendment of the bill. Mr. Gladstone surely had not forgotten the magnificent triumph of last session. (Cheers.) His friends at least had not forgotten it. (Loud cheers.) Let him trust his friends now as he trusted them then. (Great cheering.) Let him defy his enemies now as he defied them then. (Great cheering.) He would find that if this bill was brought into harmony with those principles of equal justice which secured him the great victory of last session, he would be supported by enthusiasm, resoluteness, and energy such as that which enabled him to disestablish the Irish Church, and which would enable him to give to the people of this country a system of unsectarian education. (Prolonged cheering.)

The Rev. MARMA DUKE MILLER (Methodist Free Church) seconded the resolution. He said that many persons, both in and out of Parliament, appeared to assume that the Nonconformists had some objection to the Bible being read in schools, and that they were indifferent to the religious education of the young. Mr. Forster had quoted a passage from a Roman Catholic divine in praise of the English Bible, but surely they could not be charged, as Nonconformists, as compared with other sections, with neglect of the English Bible. Mr. Forster surely ought to know that there were no sections of the community who had made such great sacrifices for the religious education of the young as Nonconformists. It was the duty of the State to teach the children to become good citizens. It was the duty of the Christian Church to teach the children to become good Christians. On this subject he quoted the words of the present Bishop of Manchester, in his report on American schools—"I confess to the conviction, growing more and more in my own mind, strengthened too by what I have heard and seen in America, that what we need more of in England is intelligent education—a real quickening of the minds of the people. And this I say quite as much in the interests of religion as in the prospect of political changes. The difficulty I find, as a country clergyman, in teaching and preaching to a mixed adult congregation lies in the slow and heavy intellectual endowment of the mass of my hearers; their scanty vocabulary, their inability to appreciate an argument or follow a train of thought, their want of general and broad mental culture. I do not think that it can be maintained that the religious teaching in our schools has produced religious intelligence or religious stability among our people." (Cheers.)

On the motion of the Rev. T. WILLIS (Independent), seconded by the Rev. DUNCAN M'GREGOR (who said that he took such a prominent position as representing his Baptist brethren, who, though absent at a meeting in Lancaster, fully sympathised in the object of the demonstration), the meeting adopted a petition to the House of Commons embodying the foregoing resolutions, and urging "that in all schools established or supported by local rates the instruction given should be absolutely unsectarian."

A large and representative committee was then appointed on the motion of the Rev. S. A. STEINTHAL (Unitarian), seconded by Mr. S. S. BARTON (Methodist Free Church), "to endeavour to carry into effect the resolutions." The committee, which consists of about eighty persons, includes every Independent and Baptist minister in the town and neighbourhood, with one or two exceptions; almost every Presbyterian, Unitarian, Methodist Free Church, Primitive and Association Methodist ministers, and several Wesleyan ministers; also the most influential Nonconformist laymen in the neighbourhood.

The proceedings terminated with a vote of thanks to the Chairman, moved by Mr. Alderman RUMNEY and seconded by the Rev. THOMAS KENCH.

The report of a sub-committee was adopted on Wednesday by the General Purposes Committee of the Manchester Town Council disapproving some of the provisions of the bill now before Parliament. They think that attendance in the absence of home instruction should be made compulsory; they object to the question of religious instruction being remitted

to school boards, and to school boards being independent of the Council, though empowered to demand a portion of the borough rate in support of the schools. They think the school board in boroughs ought to be the Council, or, if not, suggest that school boards in boroughs should be elected, like the guardians of the poor, directly by the ratepayers, and either be authorised themselves to levy rates, or obtain them from the overseers. They also think a larger proportion of the school funds should be levied by national taxation (local rates not contributing more than 3d. in the pound), so that both property and income should contribute, and not a small proportion of the community be left to bear the burden alone. It is expected that the Town Council will not only endorse the views put forth by the committee, which is a majority of the whole, but send a deputation to Ministers to enforce their views.

At a meeting of the Devonshire Chamber of Agriculture on Friday afternoon, at Exeter, some speeches were delivered on the education question. Earl Fortescue, in the course of his remarks, said he could not help thinking that the religious question was one of more difficulty on the floor of the House of Commons than it would practically be found. Personally he knew a large number of schools where the religious difficulty did not arise. He never remembered a religious difficulty arising in the school in his own parish, which had been in existence for nearly a century. With regard to the effects of education, he did not think that people really served a good cause by encouraging too great expectations. His own belief was, that the great proportion of the criminals—now that there was no compulsory education—was due, not only to want of school instruction, but more to parental neglect and the bad training which they had at home. He did not believe that any school would take the place of home training, and least of all did he think any school instruction could. The following resolutions were passed:—

That the Elementary Education Bill merits the general support of this Chamber; so far as it aims at securing a sufficient amount of public-school accommodation throughout the kingdom, and to maintain a good standard of efficiency in schools, but this Chamber considers that as elementary education is of national importance, and is for the benefit of the whole community, it is manifestly unjust to the owners and occupiers of rateable property to propose to charge so large a proportion of the cost of education on the poor-rate. And this Chamber is also of opinion that the whole of the public contributions should come out of the general taxation until there has been a complete revision of the present system of rating.

That a petition be presented to Parliament praying that no further addition be made to the burdens already borne by the funds raised by local taxation for Imperial purposes, until further inquiry has been made as to the incidence of taxation on real and personal property.

Mr. Spurgeon has given his views on compulsory education. Although he had always objected to Government interfering in religion and education, he is willing to forego his sentiments in favour of every child being educated, seeing the lamentable ignorance of London children. He trusts the Bible will be used and insisted upon, and that the doctrinal matter will be left to the care of Sunday-schools.

The *Watchman* says a statement is being quoted and extensively circulated, that some 900 Wesleyan ministers have signed a protest against the Government measure of elementary education. If so, it should be distinctly understood that such protestation is simply against the powers given to local boards to determine the character of the religious teaching in schools supported by rates; against the present form and limitations of the conscience clause; and against the interference of inspectors with religious instruction. It should be observed, however, that the ministers who have signed this protest are not, therefore, allied with the promoters of merely secular education, nor can it be inferred that they are necessarily opposed to religious teaching in elementary schools.

A sub-committee of the London Association of Church Teachers having considered the proposed amendments in the Government Education Bill, have come to the conclusion that the "Time-table Conscience Clause" is undesirable. In large schools it would be impracticable, in all inconvenient; it would be prejudicial to the religious training of children, and contrary to the spirit of the bill. Finally, as practical teachers, they consider that there is no "religious difficulty" really in their schools.

The Rev. J. C. Ryle expresses his belief in the *Record* that the Church of England ought to do more than it seems to be doing in support of the Government Education Bill, and recommends a movement, "in defence of a Bible education, from the Isle of Wight to Berwick-on-Tweed, and from the Land's End to the North Foreland." He adds:—

It is Christianity that I feel for much more than the Church of England. I would far rather see a national system of education, retaining the Bible in the schools in the hands of Wesleyans, Presbyterians, or Independents, than see the Bible excluded altogether, and our children brought up like Atheists.

For peace' sake I would consent to see the Catechism and Prayer-book shut out of our schools. But as long as I have breath in my body I will protest against depriving the children of my poorer brethren of a Bible education.

There is to be a meeting at St. James's Hall on Friday evening, of supporters of the National Education Union and friends of religious liberty in education. The following noblemen and gentlemen have promised to take part:—The Earl of Shaftesbury (in the chair), the Marquis of Salisbury, the Earl of Harrowby, Lord Howard of Glossop, the Right Hon. W. Cowper-Temple, M.P., the Right Hon. the Lord Mayor, Mr. T. Hughes, M.P., Mr.

W. H. Smith, M.P., Mr. T. Chambers, Q.C., M.P., Colonel Akroyd, M.P., Mr. C. Buxton, M.P., Mr. Beresford Hope, M.P., the Right Hon. Russell Gurney, M.P., and others.

Foreign and Colonial.

FRANCE.

In the French Chamber, on Monday, the debate on the proposed plebiscite began. M. Grévy maintained that the Emperor, by reserving to himself this right of appeal, became the sole constituent power. The plebiscite, he declared, had always been an instrument of despotism, and a means of confiscating liberty. This view was opposed by M. Ollivier. He compared the privilege of the Emperor to have recourse to an appeal to the people with that of a Constitutional Sovereign to make peace or war, and dissolve Parliament. He admitted that a plebiscite might become an instrument of despotism, but said that the same reproach could be urged against a Chamber with full powers. M. Ollivier then announced that the Ministry having perceived that the reforms already effected and those proposed touched the essential bases of the Constitution of 1851, had resolved to submit the *Senatus Consultum* to the people, who would pronounce their opinion upon it in perfect liberty. The Emperor's Government from 1852 to 1868 had required an autocratic Constitution, but since 1860 a transformation in a Constitutional sense had been gradually going on, and was now completed. M. Ollivier concluded as follows:—"We ask that the same sanction that was given to the autocratic Constitution be given to a Liberal Constitution. I confess that we have no uneasiness respecting the result, for the nation is placed between reaction and revolution, and will choose what we offer." MM. Ernest Picard and Jules Favre opposed the project of a plebiscite, and the Chamber afterwards rejected, by 151 votes against 4, a motion made to close the debate. Yesterday the debate was resumed, and after speeches by MM. David and Gambetta, the Chamber finally adopted the following order of the day, which was accepted by the Government:—"That the Chamber, after having heard the declarations of the Ministry, and being confident of the latter's devotion to the Imperial and Parliamentary Government, passes to the order of the day." This motion was passed by 227 votes against 43.

General Lebœuf, the Minister of War, announced that the Government consented to reduce the Military Contingent of 1869 from 100,000 to 80,000 men. The Budget of the city of Paris was laid on the table. It asks for authority to contract a loan of 600,000,000 francs (24,000,000*l.*).

The committee of the Senate appointed to report upon the *Senatus Consultum* is composed of MM. Baroche, Boudet, Drouyn de Lhuys, Behic, Devienne, Maupas, Magne, Chasseloup, Rouher, and Bauchard, the majority of whom are favourable to the measure.

The strike at Creuzot is assuming a more serious aspect. The whole of the pits are deserted. The workshops and forges, however, continue at work, and fortunately complete tranquillity prevails. M. Schneider has requested the authorities to withdraw the troops.

ITALY.

It is announced that all the towns and provinces of the Romagna are tranquil, and that the populations are generally loyal and well disposed. Some arrests have, however, been made. General Cialdini has resigned. His resignation has not yet been accepted, but he insists upon quitting office.

The Italian Chamber of Deputies, at a sitting on Sunday, adopted a proposal of Signor Minghetti to appoint four committees instead of one to examine the financial bills of the Government by 168 against 112 votes.

The Senate has approved the bill for the provisional exercise of the budget. It has also passed an order of the day expressing confidence in the Ministry in connection with the occurrences at Pavia and Piacenza.

SPAIN.

At the sitting of the Spanish Cortes on Saturday, considerable agitation was produced by the sudden appearance of Senor Capdevilla, a member who had been condemned to death by a council of war as one of the leaders of the late Republican insurrection. He had fled to France, and when last heard of was at Naples. Yielding to the entreaty of his friends, he ultimately left the House, and it is said he has escaped from custody, with the connivance of the authorities. He is reported to be insane.

A telegram from Madrid mentions that General Prim having sprained his foot, has reopened an old wound, and been compelled to take to his bed.

It is asserted that the formation of two Parliamentary parties has been accomplished in the Cortes—the one composed of Unionists and the other of Progressists. The Ministerial crisis has been postponed, not averted.

Senor Moret has been appointed Minister of Marine in succession to Admiral Topete.

The Cortes has been discussing the Military Contingent Bill, which calls out 40,000 men. Popular demonstrations are expected against the conscription, but advices from the provinces do not report any serious disorder. At Bejar, however, sixty young men left the town after the drawing, protesting against the proceedings.

A later telegram says:—"A riotous resistance to the

conscription was made on Monday in the neighbourhood of Barcelona, and barricades were erected at Sauz, which, however, were easily taken by the troops. The rioters took refuge in the houses, which were attacked by the artillery, and order was completely restored by three p.m. Several persons were killed and many wounded. Disturbances also occurred at the suburb of San Antonio, which were immediately suppressed."

It is announced in the *Correspondencia* of Madrid that another candidate for the vacant throne of Spain is in the field—Prince Augustus of Saxe-Coburg Gotha, son-in-law of the Emperor of Brazil, and brother-in-law of the Count d'Eu. The Prince is twenty-five years of age, and among other recommendations is very wealthy, and a Catholic.

AUSTRIA.

In Thursday's sitting of the Lower House of the Reichsrath the President read a declaration from the Polish members, who were absent from the sitting. They state that the memorandum of the majority and the debate on the Address had already clearly shown that their efforts for an extension of their independence were hopeless, but that they had hitherto remained at their posts in order that they might, in the interest of the country, take part in the discussion of the Military Reform Bill and the Budget. In view of the decision of the House upon the resolution of the Galician Diet and the introduction of the bill compelling the election of deputies to replace those who may have resigned, they consider that they shall best support the freedom of action of the Galician Diet by resigning their seats in the Reichsrath. The President then read communications from the deputy for Bukowina, and from the Istrian and Solave members, who also withdrew from the Reichsrath in consequence of the rejection of the motion for the extension of provincial self-government, and the introduction of the Direct Election Bill, which they declare violates the rights of the Diets.

The Ministers have unanimously resolved to ask the Emperor to sanction the dissolution of those Diets the deputies from which have resigned their seats in the Reichsrath, and to make their continuance in office dependent upon His Majesty's reply.

It has since been announced that the entire Ministry have resigned on account of the refusal of the Emperor to dissolve those Provincial Diets the deputies from which have left the Reichsrath. Count Potoski, the former Minister of Agriculture, has been entrusted with the formation of a new Cabinet.

INDIA.

By the arrival of the Bombay mail we have particulars of the opening of the "cotton railway" branch at Khamgoon. The Viceroy was present at the ceremony, and at the banquet which followed. In the speech which he delivered His Excellency expressed his pleasure at finding the first state railway in India opened only ten months after the decision to construct all new railways by Government agency had been announced. Lord Mayo afterwards spoke at great length upon cotton cultivation and its importance to India.

Sir Richard Temple made his Budget statement to the Council at Calcutta on Saturday. It appears from this statement that the working of the railways left a balance against the Government in 1868-9 of 2,774,030*l.*; for 1869-70 this balance was only 625,594*l.*, and in the coming year it is estimated there will be a surplus of 163,440*l.* In order to produce the much-desired equilibrium in Indian finance, some large reductions are proposed, including 734,551*l.* in the army expenditure, and over a million in the ordinary outlay on public works as compared with last year. The only change in taxation is that the income-tax is to be raised from 1½ to 3½ per cent. The addition to the Indian debt during last year was four millions and a quarter sterling. Of this sum, however, a large amount yet remains to be expended on public works. The cash balances amounted to 13,500,000*l.* Sir Richard Temple proposes to raise a loan for 2,000,000*l.* in England.

The railway between Calcutta and Bombay was opened for through traffic on Saturday.

AMERICA.

On the 29th the Senate passed, by thirty-nine against fifteen votes, a bill admitting Georgia on the same conditions as Virginia. The members of the Congressional Delegation from Texas have also been admitted to their seats in the Senate and the House of Representatives.

On the 30th of March President Grant issued his proclamation declaring the 15th Amendment, enacting negro suffrage, to be ratified. In a special message to Congress, he says that the 15th Amendment makes four millions of people voters that the newly-enfranchised race ought to strive to make themselves worthy of their new privilege; that the race more favoured heretofore should withhold no legal privilege of advancement from the new citizens; and that the framers of the Constitution believed the Republican form of Government could not endure without intelligence and education being diffused generally among the people. The President calls on Congress to take measures to promote and encourage popular education, and urges people to see that all possessing political rights shall have an opportunity to acquire knowledge, as by such means only can the benefit contemplated by the 15th Amendment be secured.

The United States Supreme Court, on the motion of Attorney-General Hoar, has decided to reopen the late legal tender decision and hear another argument on the question. A full Bench of nine judges sat, of whom five voted to reopen the case,

and four dissented. The two new judges, Strong and Bradley, voted with the majority; Chief Justice Chase with the minority.

The negro Senator, Revels, made his first speech on the 16th of March, on the Georgia Bill, and was listened to by crowded galleries. He read from manuscript, and created a deep impression, being a much more eloquent man than the majority of the white Senators.

The Senate, by 41 votes against 12, has admitted General Ames, late Military Commander of Mississippi, to a seat as Senator from that State.

CANADA.

The *Toronto Globe* publishes particulars of the shooting of one Thomas Scott, an Irishman, lately residing in Canada, by Riel, at Fort Garry, on the 3rd of March. The only charge against Scott was that he had escaped from prison with other Canadians, and joined the late movement of Major Boulton against Riel's administration. It was also alleged that he had used offensive language, but this was denied. He was executed the day after his pretended trial, an additional day's delay, urged by Mr. Donald Smith and the clergyman attending him, being refused. The whole settlement is reported to be in terror of Riel and his armed followers.

The *Morning Post* says that in the event of the insurgents continuing their opposition to the incorporation of the territory in the Dominion, the Imperial Government will send an expedition, comprising a steel battery with 1,000 men, to the settlement.

FOREIGN MISCELLANY.

M. Ledru-Rollin has arrived in France, and gone quietly to his country seat.

Sugar-growing is said to be thriving amazingly in New South Wales and Queensland.

M. Ernest Renan has been received with enthusiasm by the students of the University of Paris, on his re-election to the Hebrew professorship.

The *Tablet* states that Garibaldian enlistments are going on actively, and the drilling of recruits at Terni.

A new President of the Republic of Hayti, General Sageni, was installed on the 20th ult. for a term of four years.

The Massachusetts Legislature, by a vote of 129 to 94, has passed an Act to open the public libraries of Boston on Sunday.

SUTTEE IN INDIA.—A case of suttee (self-immolation of a widow) occurred lately at Jounpore. The relatives of the deceased, who encouraged her to commit the horrid rite, have been sentenced to seven years' imprisonment, and the villagers who looked on to three years' imprisonment.

THE GOLDEN ROSE.—We hear from Rome that the Pope has blessed the Golden Rose, but does not intend to give it away to any Sovereign Lady this year; all are in disgrace with his Holiness, even his favourite, Isabella of Spain, who once got the precious flower as a reward for her devotion and virtue.—*Morning Post*.

THE TELEGRAPH BETWEEN ENGLAND AND INDIA.—Telegraphic communication with India is now so far perfect that electricity outstrips the course of the sun, as it frequently happens that messages transmitted from Calcutta at noon to London are delivered by the Indo-European Telegraph Company at 10.30 a.m. The communication between London and Teheran (the terminus of the Indian Government lines) is actually instantaneous.

THE VICEROY OF EGYPT.—Advices from Alexandria state that great dissatisfaction has been created by the report of the intention of the Viceroy to raise a new loan on the security of his personal estates. The money, it is believed, is really to be used for Government purposes, and it is asserted that the negotiation has been introduced in its present shape merely to evade the pledge that no fresh Government borrowings should be attempted for five years from the year 1868.

THE STATISTICS OF THE FREEDMEN'S SAVINGS BANK OF WASHINGTON, just published, show a very remarkable progress of the coloured people. Within the last four years the average of deposits has risen from 1,000 dollars a day to 14,000 dollars per day. The total sum deposited has risen in the short space of two years from under 200,000 dollars to very close upon a million and three quarters. Of the twenty-six employees of the bank, exactly half are coloured men.

NEW GOLD DISCOVERIES IN CALIFORNIA.—California is in great excitement over the recent discoveries of gold near San Diego in the southern part of the State, and marvellous stories are told of the richness of the workings. A letter says that the fortunate discoverer of the new gold region was a German named Vickers, who found a gold-bearing ledge four feet wide, the quartz in which as far as has been penetrated is said to be worth 25,000 dollars a ton. In some lots half the rock brought out is said to be free gold. Of course, everyone in the neighbourhood has abandoned his business and rushed to the mines, where there is plenty of gold, but very little to eat.

INDIAN COURTS AND POLYGAMY.—A very curious case has recently come before the Civil Court at Lucknow, in India. A Mahomedan husband instituted a suit for the restitution of conjugal rights. The wife pleaded that she had renounced the Mahomedan religion and become a Christian, and that thereby the Mahomedan marriage was cancelled and the husband's rights ceased. The judge decided in favour of the plaintiff. The case, which is exciting great interest in India, will doubtless be appealed, and may not improbably come before the Privy

Council. It is noticeable that although the English Probate Court does not recognise a polygamous union, the Privy Council, as the Court of Appeal from India, does. Hindoo as well as Mahomedan marriages may be polygamous, and it is somewhat curious that a Hindoo man cannot be prosecuted for bigamy although a Hindoo woman can, and that a Mahomedan can only be prosecuted for bigamy if, having four wives living, he marries a fifth.—*Solicitors' Journal*.

THE CHINESE IMMIGRATION QUESTION still interests the South. From San Francisco we have intelligence that three vessels have been chartered at Shanghai to carry Chinamen to New Orleans. A Memphis paper announces that an English company, the Merchants Trading Company of Liverpool, is going into the business of importing Asiatic labour into the United States, and has appointed an agent to reside at Vicksburg, Mississippi. This agent, a Colonel Gowan, says he can supply 100,000 Chinese labourers within twelve months if necessary, his company having nine steamers and twenty-nine sailing vessels, with an aggregate tonnage of 56,000, available for the trade. The Merchants Trading Company has issued a circular stating the terms upon which Chinese immigrant labour can be secured, all their rules being strictly in accordance with the treaties between the United States and China. The price of each labourer, delivered at Charleston, Savannah, Pensacola, Mobile, or New Orleans, is 250 dollars gold.—*Letter in the Times*.

PRINCE PIERRE BONAPARTE.—A letter from Paris says:—"The Emperor's intention of sending his turbulent cousin to foreign parts is said to have been strongly opposed by Prince Pierre. It is related that an aide-de-camp was sent to the Prince to inform him, with all due courtesy and consideration, that it was the Emperor's desire he should travel, and requesting that his preparations might be made in the shortest time convenient to himself. The Prince is said to have received the ambassador with the urbanity for which he is famed, to have contested the Emperor's right to expel him from French territory, and to have demanded the restitution to the family of Prince Lucien of twenty millions of francs bequeathed to him by his brother the First Napoleon. Article 6 of the *Senatus Consultum* of 1852 gives the Emperor complete power and authority over all the members of his family. 'He regulates,' it says, 'their duties and obligations by statutes which have the force of the law.' Moreover, Prince Pierre has no fortune of his own, so that the stoppage of his pension of 50,000*fr.* a year might soon starve him into submission." The Prince still remains at Auteuil.

EXPULSION OF LADIES FROM ROME.—A letter from the correspondent of the *Daily News* at Rome gives an account of the expulsion from that city of three English ladies, under circumstances which are said to have excited a good deal of indignation against the Papal Government. On the 24th ult. the ladies in question received a visit from three gendarmes and a police-agent in private clothes, who made a thorough search of their lodgings. Two days afterwards they received orders to quit Rome in twenty-four hours. Mr. Odo Russell and our consul, Mr. Severn, exerted themselves in the matter, and Cardinal Antonelli was communicated with. The Pope himself was appealed to, but all in vain. At the expiration of forty-eight hours, a respite of twenty-four hours having been obtained, two of the ladies left Rome and went to Naples. The other has resolved not to leave until actually compelled. A rumour that the ladies had been engaged in distributing unauthorised Italian Bibles is contradicted, and no reason whatever for the expulsion appears to have been given. It is thought that the order proceeded from the Pope himself. According to the *Times* of yesterday, the ladies as they were crossing the frontier, received an intimation that they might return to Rome.

THE DUKE OF EDINBURGH AT CAWNPORE.—An occasional correspondent of the *Guardian* details the progress of the Duke of Edinburgh. On the 17th of February he was at Cawnpore, when the following curious address was presented to him by the native inhabitants of the town:—

Oh! Prince Most Gracious and High, to our Most Majestic Queen (long may she reign!) is committed by the Great Just the sovereignty of England and India, and to Him who is the Preserver of all she is responsible for the administration of even-handed justice to the two great nations. But as it is difficult—nay, impossible—for our most beloved Queen to grace this land with her most august presence, she has been most graciously pleased to send you, the Prince of the most exalted merit (ever our heads rest under the feet of such an illustrious guest!), only to show her affection and kindness to this people. And she has, by this mark of her great affection, so far bound the hearts of all India to her benign rule that to-day this town sings with joy the following couplets:—

Highly are we honour'd by your Highness's advent.
Oh! our respects accept and view our joy fervent.
Your gracious journey to our distant shore and town
Rivet most doubly our attachment to the Crown.

May, O Providence! the sun of our Queen's rule
never set!

HOW RECONSTRUCTION FARES AT RICHMOND.—Civil war is raging in Richmond, the capital of Virginia, between two rival claimants for the office of mayor. As soon as Virginia was admitted a little time ago, her Legislature passed an Act, called the "Enabling Act," providing for the filling up of those offices held by military men, which it was expected would be vacated now that military rule had come to an end. Under this Act the Governor appointed a City Council for Richmond, and on March 16 this Council proceeded to elect a new mayor and a new chief of police. On the following day the new officials applied to the old occupants for possession of their

respective offices, books, &c. To these requests a reply was returned in both instances that "the Enabling Act" was passed in direct violation of the Constitution of the State adopted last July, on the faith of which Congress admitted the State; that, consequently, the Governor had no power to appoint a City Council, and that still less, therefore, had that council authority to appoint a mayor and chief of police; and that under those circumstances the old mayor and chief of police must continue to discharge the duties of their offices until successors were legally chosen in their stead by a council constitutionally elected by the people in the month of May. Upon the despatch and receipt of this reply the opposing claimants severally proceeded to collect and swear in special constables. Mr. Ellison, the new mayor, however, was able to get together the larger force, and he speedily besieged the recalcitrant officers in one of the police-stations, cutting off the gas and water, and preventing the admission of provisions—in fact, establishing a regular blockade, while the larger portion of the old mayor's police were captured on their beats throughout the city. On the afternoon of the 18th, General Cauley, the military commandant in Virginia, marched a body of troops into the city, and raised the siege. While Ellison's police were retreating before the soldiery, they were stoned by a mob of coloured men. They fired upon the mob in retaliation, killing two men and wounding three others. In reply to the Governor's protest against military interference, General Cauley said he did not take upon himself to decide which claimant was in the right, but only to preserve the peace. The old mayor has applied for an injunction to the United States District Court.

Court, Official, and Personal News.

On Friday the Queen, accompanied by the Princess Louise, arrived in London from Windsor, and paid a visit of condolence to the Hon. Mrs. Grey at St. James's Palace.

The Bishop of Oxford preached before the Queen on Sunday in the private chapel at Windsor.

Colonel Henry Ponsonby, who is about to retire from the Grenadier Guards, is likely to receive the appointment of Private Secretary to Her Majesty, rendered vacant by the death of General the Hon. Charles Grey.

The *Gazette* announces that Her Majesty's birthday will be kept on Saturday, the 28th of May.

Her Majesty will go to her marine residence at Osborne on the 13th inst.

On Wednesday the Prince and Princess of Wales visited the City of London Middle-Class Schools, Cowper-street, City-road. The visit lasted over an hour, and included an inspection of the more prominent of the pursuits which are carried on at this institution.

Preparations are being made for the Prince and Princess of Wales and family to spend the Easter holidays at Sandringham. Their new residence is making rapid progress towards completion, but it will not be ready for occupation till the autumn. The Prince and Princess will stay at Park House, the residence of Sir W. Knollys, and the suite and guests at the Bachelor's Cottage.

Prince Arthur is expected to return to England from Canada in August next. He will then take up his residence at the Ranger's House, Greenwich Park, and will probably rejoin the Royal Artillery at Woolwich.

Mr. Bright was the only Cabinet Minister absent from the Council on Saturday.

Various rumours have been set afloat that it is the intention of Mr. Bright to resign the Presidency of the Board of Trade, and to retire from the Government. The *Birmingham Daily Post* has the best reason for saying that no decision on the subject has been come to. Since his residence at Brighton the right hon. gentleman's health has considerably improved; and though an early return to Parliamentary labours is not to be looked for, yet Mr. Bright is again able to take an interest in public affairs.

Lord Minto will succeed Lord Ailsa as Knight of the Thistle.

The *Gazette* publishes a long list of changes in the personnel of the naval officers consequent upon the operation of the new scheme of retirement adopted by Mr. Childers. Amongst the admirals who have been placed upon the retired list are Sir W. Johnstone, Sir W. F. Martin, Sir M. Seymour, Sir T. S. Pasley, Sir R. Smart, Sir B. Walker, and Sir J. C. Dalrymple Hay, M.P.

Mr. Francis W. Rowsell has succeeded Mr. Antonio Brady as Superintendent of Contracts of the Admiralty.

The serious illness (from paralysis) of General the Hon. Charles Grey terminated in his death on Thursday night. He was Private Secretary to the Queen, and one well known to be among Her Majesty's private friends and confidential servants. He was the brother and heir presumptive of Earl Grey, and was born in 1804.

The Archbishop of Canterbury's progress to convalescence is slow. He is about, it is said, to remove for change of air and scene to the Continent.

The rumour is again revived that the Speaker means to retire, and that he will be succeeded by Mr. Cardwell, who, in his turn, will, it is said, be replaced by Lord Northbrook, now Under-Secretary.

Particulars of the vote on account of the Civil Service Estimates for the year ending 31st March, 1871, are published in a Parliamentary paper. A sum of 2,328,000*l.* is required on account. The

total estimate is 9,989,545*l.* as compared with 9,931,814*l.* voted for 1869-70.

Sir Stafford Northcote leaves Liverpool to-morrow for Canada, on a mission in connection with the Hudson's Bay Company, of which he is the chairman.

Postscript.

Wednesday, April 6th, 1870.

YESTERDAY'S PARLIAMENT.

The House of Lords did not sit long last night, nor was the business they transacted of more than ordinary importance.

At the early sitting of the House of Commons, the ATTORNEY-GENERAL gave notice that on Friday evening he shall ask leave to bring in a bill to disfranchise the boroughs of Bridgwater and Beverley; and Mr. G. H. MOORE promised that after Easter he will call attention to the state of Ireland with reference to the Act of Union.

When the House got into committee on the Irish Land Bill, it speedily became involved in something like a repetition of the debate of the previous evening. Mr. GLADSTONE, slightly altering an amendment of which Mr. C. FORTESCUE had given notice, moved the insertion of words giving compensation to a tenant disturbed in his holding "for the loss the court shall find he has sustained." This proposal led to a renewal of controversy as to whether or not a tenant ought to receive compensation for "disturbance" apart from the improvements which he might have made. Eventually, after a very exciting debate the amendment was carried by a majority of 111—293 to 182. Mr. CORBRIDGE then moved an amendment, limiting the compensation to five years' rent, and restricting the operations of the clause to holdings of 15*l.* annual value; but when it opposed by the Government he did not press it. Soon afterwards progress was reported, and the sitting was suspended.

When the House reassembled at nine o'clock, Mr. P. A. TAYLOR moved for leave to bring in a bill "to restore the ancient constitutional practice of payment of members." It was opposed by Mr. Gladstone. Mr. Hibbert, Mr. Cross, and Lord Bury all addressed the House in opposition to the bill; and no one except its author saying a word in its favour, leave to introduce it was refused by a majority of 187—211 to 24.

After some important discussions, Mr. T. HUGHES moved an address to the Queen praying Her Majesty to remove from the statutes proposed for Shrewsbury, Winchester, Harrow, Charterhouse, and Rugby Schools, the words requiring membership of the Church of England as a qualification for membership of the governing bodies of those institutions. The motion was withdrawn at Mr. MOWBRAY's suggestion, Mr. BAUGH intimating in agreeing to the adjournment that he was favourable to the motion. He also promised that no Order in Council should pass until the debate had terminated.

The House adjourned shortly before one o'clock.

LATEST FOREIGN NEWS.

DISTURBANCES IN SPAIN.

A telegram from Madrid in the *Times*, dated yesterday, says:—"Sunday being the day appointed for the drawing of lots for the conscription, the results were verified peacefully in most parts of the country, but there were serious riots in some places. In Salamanca, Tordes, Huelva, and Castillon, crowds of people broke into the places where the drawing was going on, and interrupted the proceedings. In the two latter towns they destroyed the ballot urns. In Bejar seventy youths fled to the mountains after being drawn as conscripts. In Carthagena and La Granza the military had to enforce the drawing. In Barcelona, the drawing had to be postponed till yesterday, when serious disturbances arose, resulting in the formation of a barricade. There was fighting there, and at Sanz, and at Gracia, two neighbouring pueblos, and many persons were wounded, both among the troops and the people. The province has been declared in a state of siege. The troops remain loyal. It is rumoured that outbreaks have occurred at Cadiz and Valencia, but these reports want confirmation, the telegraphic communication being interrupted. The Ministerial crisis here has terminated. Senor Echegaray remains in office."

MARK-LANE.—THIS DAY.

Owing to the finer weather, and to the resumption of the grain shipments from the Baltic ports, the grain trade has been quiet to-day. The receipts of English produce have been limited, but have been quite equal to the demand. Very little business has been doing, at about the rates current on Monday. There has been a good show of foreign wheat on the stands. The trade has been quiet, at late quotations. Moderate supplies of barley have been on offer, at previous quotations. Malt has sold slowly, on former terms. The market has been well supplied with oats. The demand has been inactive, at drooping prices. Beans and peas have been dull. Flour has been in limited request, at previous quotations.

ARRIVALS THIS WEEK.					
	Wheat.	Barley.	Malt.	Oats.	Flour.
English & Scotch	280	940	450	—	—
Irish	—	—	—	—	—
Foreign	3,940	1,860	—	11,040	890 bks.
					6,370 bria.
					Maise, 2,160 gra.

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TO CORRESPONDENTS.

"Geo. Fraser."—We cannot afford space at present for any further communications on the subject.

"A. Canning" and "M. J. Taylor."—Declined.

* The statement relative to distress in the Shetland Islands is unavoidably postponed.

The Nonconformist.

WEDNESDAY, APRIL 6, 1870.

SUMMARY.

THE Peace Preservation (Ireland) Bill is now the law of the land. Its provisions were considered in Committee in the House of Lords on Thursday, when the Duke of Abercorn, in justifying the stringent press clauses, stated as the result of his experience as Lord-Lieutenant, that a great portion of the population in the South and West of Ireland read no newspapers but such as excite to a seditious spirit. Some amendments made in the Bill

were subsequently struck out in the Commons as an infringement of their taxing powers, but one alteration, enabling the Government to seize papers in Ireland printed elsewhere containing treasonable or seditious matter, has been retained. This addition will prevent Fenian journals being printed in London and sent across the Channel for circulation. The Bill, owing to there being no meeting of the Commons on Saturday, did not receive the Royal assent till Monday. It has already produced a salutary effect. For some days there has been an entire absence of agarian outrages in Ireland, and the "National" journals have already adopted a very cautious tone, in marked contrast to their previous violent counsels.

Thus early, before the Easter recess, the Government find themselves pressed for time to get through the programme of the Session. Mr. Gladstone announced on Thursday that the Irish Land Bill would be pressed forward as rapidly as possible, but the suggestion of a few morning sittings before the recess led to some very exciting scenes, Mr. Disraeli himself heading the malcontents, and to a division which gave Ministers a majority of ninety-seven. The House consequently sat at noon on Friday and yesterday; still the Irish Land Bill makes but slow progress. Next in importance the Premier places the Education Bill, which he is "most anxious should go rapidly forward," but the Committee cannot be taken before Easter, and the progress of the Bill will depend upon the more urgent measure of the Session. Mr. Forster's "omnibus" will evidently have to wait a long time—maybe till next Session. The Government also intend to introduce the University Tests Bill after Easter, followed "if possible" by a measure founded on the report of the Elections Procedure Committee, which embraces the Ballot. In the second category, Mr. Gladstone places the Naturalisation Bill, and a measure to enable the Irish disestablished clergy to perform the marriage ceremony. The "miscellaneous" bills referred to in the Queen's Speech will have to take their chance, including the reforms in the higher courts of law, and we suppose the measures relating to the transfer and bequest of real estate in England. A prolific Session is now hardly to be looked for, owing to the derangement caused by the necessity of passing an Irish Coercion Bill.

Some of the minor incidents of the Parliamentary week have not been without interest. At the instance of Mr. W. Johnston, the Orange leader, the Government have consented to repeal the Party Processions (Ireland) Act on account of its one-sided operation, and in its place to introduce a measure of a less objectionable nature. The appointment of Mr. Newdegate's Committee (which was agreed to last week by a narrow majority) for inquiring into conventual establishments is to be opposed by the Irish members. Perhaps the Government will consent to waive their objections to the Committee if its powers are restricted to narrow limits. Mr. P. A. Taylor met with small encouragement last night in his proposal for the payment of members of Parliament. Mr. Gladstone, at some length, opposed the motion, but not a single member supported the member for Leicester, though he obtained twenty-four silent votes. The proposal of the Attorney-General to introduce a Bill for the disfranchisement of the boroughs of Bridgewater and Beverley, is the inevitable corollary of the reports of the recent commissions. During the last fortnight there have been several convictions for bribery at elections, chiefly at Norwich. It is satisfactory to know that Mr. Disraeli's Act is not to remain a dead letter. The punishment awarded to persons engaged in such practices will probably not be heavy, but it is something to be able to enforce the penalties against bribery at all.

A new element has been introduced into French politics. Napoleon III. insists upon submitting the recent important constitutional changes embodied in the Senatus-Consultum to a popular vote. His Ministers have reluctantly yielded, and as soon as the Session of the Legislative Body closes, there will be a Plebiscite. The Left are averse to an appeal which will waste time, and probably strengthen the Imperial throne. The Chamber having yesterday accepted the new programme of the Government, will soon wind up the Session. A dissolution must inevitably follow the Plebiscite, although an appeal to the electoral body in the first instance would render the other unnecessary. But the Emperor insists; and has, in this instance, been allowed to have his way.

The difficulties arising out of the dual Government of the Austrian empire have come to a head. The Polish and Slave members of the Reichsrath, to the number of 160, finding that their hopes of local independence are not likely to be realised, have resigned in a body. The Govern-

ment—not the Imperial Cabinet presided over by Count Beust—thereupon decided to dissolve the provincial diets; but the Emperor having refused to sanction this step, the Ministers have now retired. Probably the new advisers of His Majesty will be less disposed to insist on the centralist policy which is advocated by the German section of the population, and will propose some compromise which will bring back the malcontent, and for a time at least, reconcile Imperial claims with local rights.

The news from Spain is again disquieting. The breach between the moderate and advanced Liberals is not yet healed, but the Cabinet has resolved on a more decided policy in favour of administrative reforms. While General Prim lies ill in bed, a formidable resistance is being offered in various parts of the country to the new conscription, which has led to barricade-raising and bloodshed. The Executive will no doubt put down all resistance, but they cannot so easily convince the people that the immense military force maintained by the Government is necessary for the protection of Spain. But if the Spaniards desire a reduction of armaments they should take measures for getting rid of Cuba, the greatest burden on their finances.

DAMAGES FOR EVICTION.

THE cardinal principle of the Irish Land Bill was affirmed on Monday night, after a very animated discussion, by a majority of seventy-six votes. The supporters of the policy of Government were 296, of its opponents, 220. We regard this division as decisive of the fortunes of the Bill—at any rate in the House of Commons. This point having been determined, it seems likely that the progress of the measure through Committee will be less obstructed than it has been. Indeed, if the past might be taken as any fair measure of the future, the Land Bill, even if it escaped destruction, would do so only by leaving every other measure to "uncovenanted mercies." But, we are decidedly of opinion that the past rather comprehends than foreshadows the future. Discussion will not be so full, extended, and laborious as it has been. The House of Commons has been engaged in a work analogous to that of launching a magnificent vessel. More than half the time spent upon it seems to effect no visible result. Nothing really appreciable is accomplished until all is accomplished. When the ship moves on the stocks, the success of the enterprise is as good as secured. The resources of mechanical science are drawn upon, almost to exhaustion, to obtain the first inch or two of movement. That obtained, the rest follows as a matter of course. This is very much the position of the Land Tenure Bill in the House of Commons. *It moves.* Nay, more, it has triumphantly surmounted the main difficulty which stood in its way. The *vis inertiae* is exchanged for the *vis momentum*. The rate of advance will be in an inverse proportion to what it has been. The stern resistance of the Opposition to it has been pushed back several stages, and will have to gather up its force upon some new rallying ground.

The weakness of the Bill is also its strength—its most exposed is also its most defensible part. There are crises in the history of most nations when the very safest position for true statesmanship is astride the back of some revolutionary principle. It is so in regard to the question of land tenure in Ireland. The accretions of English thought on this subject have long passed for a natural growth, and the rights of property in their most abstract form have been confounded with the rights of landowners in their concrete. Indeed, British law has hitherto sided with the proprietor against the occupier, and proprietorship having had exclusive, or nearly exclusive, possession of the powers of legislation, has perverted natural sentiment in the matter. It seems to have been silently assumed, but, until quite lately, without contradiction, that the most arbitrary and extravagant claims of landlordism have their origin in the common law. Nothing can be more incorrect, at any rate in regard to Ireland. The powers of Irish landowners are statutory, and historically recent. Eviction was an almost unknown evil, not more, at most, than a century ago. The leaning of the law was the other way, and landlordism was compelled to seek legal remedies against its tenantry. Gradually, however, it built up the present arbitrary system, in spite of reason, of justice, and of ancient tradition. What is now sought to be done in curtailment of its legal powers, which it calls "rights of property," it did without compunction, hardly a century ago, in abridgment of the rights of tenants. It is horrified now with the reflex application of doctrines upon which it then acted most freely. It shouts "Revolution" where once it whispered, "indis-

pensable conditions of progress." It assumes, and, we are persuaded, really feels, that it is injured by the Land Bill in its fundamental and immemorially prescriptive rights, and it gives expression to its outraged feeling accordingly.

We do not blame the landlords for stiffly defending claims which they believe they can establish; but we must confess we could never see how such claims, if challenged, could be harmonised with the first principles of reason. But be this as it may, upon the assumption of the indefensible rights of landlordism, have been built up not a few of what may be called the wrongs of tenantry. We speak for the present exclusively of the sister island. The question before us ought not to be complicated with other and still larger issues. But the fact is, that in Ireland the landlords—there are, of course, many exceptions to the rule—have, in the first place, wrenched law to their own side, and have afterwards used it as an engine of indescribable oppression. "Do this, do that, give up this, abandon that, or quit the holding which you have at my good pleasure only." This is the sort of unwritten law which comes out of comparatively recent written law of landlord and tenant. It is not at all necessary, in order to prove the extreme oppression which is inseparable from such a state of territorial relations, that the landlords, as a class, should have pushed their advantage to unjustifiable lengths. It suffices that their tenants are at the mercy of such an abuse of power. Their liability constitutes their worst evil. As Dr. Johnson said of the man who possessed a loaded pistol, that he was master of an unarmed crowd, for though it was known that he could but shoot once, yet no one could tell who the victim would be; so in regard to the use, or rather the abuse, of landlord rights, even when only one tenant in a thousand is harshly ousted from his holding, the nine hundred and ninety-nine are made to feel their insecurity.

To take bail of vicious landlordism is really the object of the third clause of the Land Bill, which was debated with so much warmth on Monday night. And, in sooth, if the principle of giving compensation for damages to the tenant, for arbitrary eviction from his holding, were struck out of the Bill, the measure might as well be dropped altogether. The clause will extend protection to upwards of half a million small occupiers—the bulk, we may say, of the Irish agricultural interest. This or nothing was an alternative which the Government had a full right to put before the Committee. The Committee decided wisely: Its instincts were in favour of the weak against the strong—of the defenceless against the protected. The stilted rhetoric of Mr. Disraeli was harmless in its results. The most characteristic feature of the Ministerial measure has received the emphatic approbation of the Commons, and, we doubt not, the remaining portions of the Bill will be the more readily acquiesced in inasmuch as this part of it has been so stoutly contested.

THE NATIONAL FINANCES.

THE revenue accounts for the financial year are now complete, and there is little difficulty in anticipating some portion of the statement which the Chancellor of the Exchequer will have to submit to the House of Commons next Monday. Altogether the prospect is so encouraging as to be well worth a little complacent contemplation, apart from possible boons to the public. That the British taxpayer has earned a full title to the relief which Mr. Lowe is likely to afford, is manifest on the face of the revenue returns. The increase of 1,726,000*l.* in the taxes, and of 2,513,000*l.* on the income-tax during the last quarter, testifies to the great pressure which has been put upon the public during the last three months by the Chancellor of the Exchequer's new mode of collecting the revenue, and his refusal of long credits. The total revenue for the year is set down at 75,434,252*l.*, about one-third of which has been received into the Exchequer since the 1st of January, 1870. Those who have been squeezed since that period will find some satisfaction in the fact that Mr. Lowe has realised nearly two millions beyond his estimate in April last.

It does not seem to us possible that so satisfactory a statement of revenue could be made unless it were based upon a steady revival of trade and commerce. Under all the heads except two, there is an increase of receipts for the year. The Excise is better than the estimate by 1,301,000*l.* Stamps, by 30,000*l.*; taxes, by 1,006,000*l.*; (though the fire insurance duty and taxes on vehicles have been remitted or reduced); Income-tax, by 1,426,000*l.* (one penny per pound having been taken off last April); Post Office, by 10,000*l.* Several of these items testify to a more active condition

of industry than previously. The amount under the head "Miscellaneous" shows a decrease, but this item is always variable. The sum of 21,529,000*l.* has been received as Customs revenue during the year, showing a diminution to the extent of 895,000*l.* But last April Mr. Lowe surrendered the shilling duty on corn, which entailed an absolute loss to the exchequer of 900,000*l.* This branch of receipts is the only unfavourable feature in the yearly returns. The falling off in the Customs will probably be found to be due to a decreased consumption of tea, coffee, and sugar by the poor; who have, however, partly owing to the abolition of the corn duty, which encouraged great importations, enjoyed cheap bread. During the next financial year, a substantial improvement in the Customs receipts may reasonably be expected.

The Chancellor of the Exchequer in his last Budget reckoned on an expenditure of 68,233,000*l.* Judging from the weekly returns now issued, there is reason to believe that he will not require more than 66,500,000*l.* to meet the year's demands. There would thus be a surplus of about four and a half millions over his estimates. Some people may regard this as a low calculation of the balance which the Chancellor of the Exchequer will have to operate with; but Mr. Lowe has had a windfall since April last, which cannot be repeated. The gains by "changes in the mode of collecting taxes" were calculated at 3,360,000*l.*, and though they enabled the Finance Minister to tide over an unpromising year, he cannot repeat so trying an experiment. He has shown a prudent reserve as to his intentions in distributing the expected surplus; but if his last Budget and the views of the leading members of the Government may be taken as a guide, both direct and indirect taxation will feel the benefit of his financial policy. Of late years we have been making some approximation to what may be regarded as a fairer distribution of the public burdens. But the golden mean is by no means yet reached. Without accepting the theory deprecated the other day by Mr. Lowe, that the working classes should be exempt from taxation, or even free from all taxes except those levied on fermented liquors and tobacco, it must be remembered that 43,292,000*l.* of the revenue was, during the past financial year, supplied by indirect taxation, and hardly half of that amount was the product of the assessed and income-taxes, &c. There is no room for the well-to-do classes to bestir themselves so long as coffee and sugar pay twenty-five per cent. *ad valorem* duty, and tea from thirty to forty per cent. The incidence of taxation is still in favour of the rich, and our acute financier-in-chief is familiar with the fact that a reduction of duties on such articles by no means involves a proportionate loss of revenue, as was shown by the result of Sir Peel's tariff reforms. An abatement of the income-tax to the extent of one penny in the pound, which seems to be expected, would be fairly balanced by a reduction of the duties on breakfast-table articles. It is easy to suppose that Mr. Lowe will endeavour to distribute his favours somewhat impartially. A reduction of the income taxation, a corner taken off the national debt, an equalisation of the sugar duties, and some boon (as good as promised) to the agricultural interest in respect to malt, may perhaps form prominent features in next Monday's financial statement. This would harmonise with the Chancellor of the Exchequer's theory of "keeping the table standing on many legs," while mitigating the general pressure.

In the present condition of the country, slowly recovering from long depression, and subjected to keen foreign competition, the incidence of taxation is a question of special importance. For the sake of giving further relief just now to the springs of industry, the Chancellor of the Exchequer might wisely leave the national debt for future operations. But we will not be presumptuous. Still, in the words of the *Daily News*, we fully believe that "with a thoroughly economical Government, with free trade fully developed, with a good understanding between capitalist and labourer, with improved facilities for the transfer of land—when the present depression, which is produced by exceptional causes, has passed away—it is quite possible that the welfare of the people of this country may be such that emigration shall no longer be a national necessity. For although new countries have the command of cheap and fertile land, England has the advantage of concentration, easy communication, abundant capital and machinery, cheap coal and iron; and if we could once be free from debt, there seems no reason why we should not command as many comforts by manufacturing for other nations as they do by raising our food and our raw products."

METROPOLITAN PAUPERISM.

THE first annual meeting of "The Society for Organising Charitable Relief and Repressing Mendicity" furnishes a suitable occasion for again calling attention to the great problem of metropolitan pauperism. The facts of the case are remarkable and almost incredible. The lavish expenditure of the Poor-law authorities, and the still more lavish outlay of charitable societies, seem quite incapable of meeting, if they do not aggravate, the necessities of the poor of London. Though we are just emerging from winter, the muster-roll of pauperism shows no signs of diminution. In the third week of March no less than 166,000 persons, or five per cent. of the population of the metropolis, were receiving poor relief—an increase of 17,000 as compared with last year, and of 13,000 over the number relieved immediately after the great collapse of 1866. Though there is still considerable depression in various trades, during the last year or two, there has been on the whole a sensible improvement. It is not so much lack of work, as an increase of indigence that is observable—indigence which comes of the lowered independence of the poor generally, and of the multitudes of tramps and vagrants who are drawn to London by the hope of living without industry. From two to three millions sterling are expended by Poor-law officials in London, and another five millions is distributed through various agencies in charitable relief—an amount, as the Earl of Derby said at the meeting of the society referred to, which ought to feed and clothe well and comfortably at least 400,000 people.

"The knowledge of a disease," we are told, "is half its remedy." What has been so long suspected, is now almost capable of demonstration—that the very superfluity of charitable funds is one of the main causes of the present deplorable condition of the London poor. "By want of organisation, by want of proper supervision and control, by excessive laxity and absence of discrimination between the deserving and the undeserving, we are," as Lord Derby says, "pauperising year by year an increasing number of our people"; and "we are putting into the heads of a large number of the working classes the notion that it is all nonsense attempting, however high their wages may be, to lay by for the future. If work is plentiful, they say they can live well; if work fails, it is the business of the rich to keep them." Just as indiscriminate alms-giving has raised up a class of professional beggars, who make a handsome living by trading on the benevolence of the public, so the prolific charities of London maintain an army of thriftless people, whose self-reliance gives way under temptation. The further we go, and the more we expend, in our well-meant efforts to relieve distress, the more unsatisfactory is the result. Some years ago the influx of tramps into London led to the establishment of night refuges and dormitories. "The houseless poor" were the *protégés* of public benevolence. Yet these places of shelter, to a large extent, are the very citadels of our proletaires. After indulging all day in their trade, thieves and mendicants find a refuge in these places from the Poor-law officers and police. The most cruel result of this mistaken system is, that the idle and worthless, to a great extent, monopolise what is intended for the suffering and deserving poor; and while millions are squandered in the metropolis for charitable relief, we hear as frequently as ever of cases of appalling destitution and deaths from starvation.

By a painful and exhaustive process we have at last come to the conclusion that the pauperism of London, if society is not to be overwhelmed by it, must be dealt with in an entirely different fashion. A stringent and, as we believe, effectual remedy for this serious evil has been devised by the "Society for Organising Charitable Relief and Repressing Mendicity"—a remedy which is designed to bring professional mendicancy under stern rules and tight discipline, while showing a large and generous indulgence to the deserving poor, who are overtaken with unavoidable misfortune. This Society aims at systematising without unduly controlling the benevolence of the public, by establishing in every metropolitan district a central office and committee, to represent all the charitable agencies at work, and to receive and supply all information of relief afforded. To this office are referred "all persons who may appear to be deserving of assistance out of the funds of private benevolence, independently of all denominational or other differences." The plan provides that all charitable agencies should work together "under harmonising adjustment, and with due recognition of the province of each"; that "all cases which belong properly to the Poor-Law should be handed over to the guardians, and that only cases in which temporary aid is likely to prove of permanent

benefit to the recipient should be left to the operation of private charity."

We have already seen that the Poor-law Board have adopted a special Minute to enable guardians to co-operate in this work with private benevolence. "Thus," as Lord Derby says, "the numerous local charities of London may be made to set together, not to compete; and all of them may be brought into co-operation with the agents through whom the Poor-law is administered." Some of the most important Poor-law districts of the metropolis, such as Marylebone, St. George's Hanover-square, Lambeth, Kensington, Islington, Mile End Old Town, Chelsea, and Paddington, have already established such organisations, and others, like St. Pancras, Southwark, Bethnal-green, Whitechapel, and St. George's-in-the-East, are about to consider the expediency of adopting a similar machinery. There is reason to hope that the plan will ere long be extended over the whole metropolis, and that the several committees will be in efficient working order in conjunction with the local Poor-law officials, and in mutual co-operation through the central society.

To perfect so vast an organisation must necessarily be a work of time, and will depend for its success on voluntary aid. The task of grappling with metropolitan pauperism now depends not on money, but on personal service freely rendered in the various districts, by those who have leisure and capacity for the work. "There is no charity," remarked the Bishop of Winchester at the Willis's Rooms meeting, "like that of the men or women in high positions giving themselves as well as their money: not scattering the doubtful gifts of a poisoning beneficence, but by learning to sympathise with the poor, to know them thoroughly, so that they can appreciate their wants, and then in Christ's own spirit to give that which can help their bodily necessity, while it has given already the higher gift of sympathy which raises them out of their corruption." Misplaced charity is one of the great evils of the day. The new organisation will now supply an effectual test of deception. If it were in full operation, it might put an end to mendicancy. "Only lay it down as a rule," said Lord Derby in his wise introductory speech, "to give in the streets no money, but instead of money a ticket entitling the bearer to plain food if hungry, and to an inquiry by competent agents into his antecedents and wants—only make that practice universal, and beggars will vanish from your streets and roads. In nine cases out of ten the ticket will not be presented; in the tenth case there is *prima facie* evidence of real want, and that case will be thoroughly inquired into." Thus the real poor will get their due, and people who have been in the habit of indiscriminate alms-giving will be able to satisfy their benevolence without becoming the victims of imposture. It is hardly possible to exaggerate the beneficial results that would flow from the realisation of the objects aimed at by "The Society for Organising Charitable Relief and Repressing Mendicancy." It would put down professional beggary while relieving genuine distress, give a higher tone to our poorer classes who prey to an alarming extent on external benevolence; encourage industry; break up sham charitable societies; and eventually economise the rates. It is, in fact, the only means now remaining by which the great problem of metropolitan pauperism can be effectually solved.

THE UNEDUCATED UPON EDUCATION.

We are sufficiently familiar with the cogent arguments which have been so frequently and persistently adduced in favour of bringing the means of education more easily within the reach of the children of our labouring poor, but we are less intimately acquainted with the actual feelings entertained by the latter upon the subject, especially with respect to the religious element, which has so long proved the principal difficulty in the way of procuring a satisfactory solution of the long-voiced and most pressing question. The now well-known report prepared by Mr. Bartley for the Society of Arts, and to which we referred last week, is valuable, not merely as illustrating the existing educational condition of the poorer metropolitan districts, but also as affording some positive and reliable evidence respecting the state of opinion among the labouring poor concerning the utility and advantages of a proper educational system being provided for the use of their offspring. It is often, and not altogether without reason, assumed that the working classes display too much indifference in availing themselves of the means of instruction which have already been placed within their reach; but there exist unmistakable indications that this apathetic tendency, so mischievous and deplorable in its consequences, is steadily on the decline; that the vital importance of education, as

a means of increasing the pecuniary value of the labourer, is becoming better understood by those most interested. Certainly there is not to be found any real objection to education on the part of the labouring poor. If the children do not attend school, their non-attendance is invariably to be traced to one of two causes—the poverty or indifference of the parents. The religious difficulty seldom, if ever, constitutes a cause of absence. In fact, most of the poor are sectarians in name only; of the actual diversities of creed or religious opinion they know little or nothing, unless, indeed, it be the contrast between the teachings of Protestants and Romanists. A woman who was asked by Mr. Bartley whether the school at which her children attended belonged to the Baptists, Wesleyans, or Church of England, or what form of religion was taught, replied, "I don't know nothing about that," in a tone as if she had been asked to solve an obscure mathematical problem. In another house, the father, a working bootmaker, sent his children to school at four years of age. Being asked whether he preferred any particular denomination, he replied that he would not like a school without any religion, but was "not particular as to the sect to which it belonged, provided it were Christianity."

It is perfectly clear, from the results of Mr. Bartley's investigations, that whatever educational system be adopted, a certain amount of the religious element must be incorporated with the same to render it really popular with the masses, for the poor seem to entertain a very strong objection to schools in which there is not at least some show of religious instruction. In a fairly respectable home, with five children, all of whom went to school, the parents said they should not like to send their little ones where religion was not taught, but would rather send them to a school where a different doctrine was inculcated to that which they believed, than to one where religion did not enter into the daily teaching. In another case an old woman, who kept a coalshed, said she would prefer a school belonging to a different sect to the one to which she herself was attached, rather than have religion omitted altogether. In a third instance, the parents stated they required religion of some sort to be taught, though not particular in what form; if it were left out altogether, they thought the education would be worthless. These examples might be multiplied to any extent. The Churchmen would readily send their children to Dissenting schools rather than to those of a purely secular character. In like manner, Dissenters would allow their offspring to attend Church-of-England schools. Of course, there are some exceptions, but these appear to be comparatively few. A shoemaker told Mr. Bartley that he thought some Dissenters might prefer schools having no form of religion at all rather than run the risk of having to send their children to a denominational school of a sect to which they did not belong, but had "never heard any one say this in so many words." One woman, who was spoken to on the subject, strongly objected to no religion being taught, but did not know the difference between one sect and another! An intelligent workman, on being interrogated respecting the religious question, said he had never thought about it, and "did not fancy his mates ever had either." A school was considered to be a good one when the children "got on"; they "never inquired" what religion was taught there—"in fact he did not know the difference." The Roman Catholics are, as a class, more particular. Generally speaking, they will not allow their children to attend any school in which their religion is not taught. They would rather let them be without any education at all. This feeling is, however, being gradually overcome.

The school experiences of some children are not a little curious, especially in the case of those whose parents are continually migrating. An intelligent artisan related how, when a youth, he attended in succession National, Primitive Methodist, Congregational, Roman Catholic, and Baptist schools. Sometimes, however, this seeming disregard of sectarian feeling has its origin in interested motives. A very respectable woman informed Mr. Bartley she was convinced that parents never thought about the religious teaching of a school, but sent their children generally where they got the most in the way of bribes, treats, &c. For this purpose many sent one child to the Church-of-England school, another to the Wesleyan, and another, if they had one, to the Baptist, in order to be in favour with all these persuasions, and so get the good things often given away by each. Where the parents have become regular attendants at Ritualistic places of worship, this generally tolerant tendency disappears, and they often become almost as inveterate as Roman Catholics in their dislike of Dissenting schools.

In the majority of schools the religious difficulty

is as little to be met with as among the parents of the children. In the British Schools, Abbey-street, Bethnal-green-road, all the different religious sects are to be found represented; the Scriptures being read and religious instruction given, though any parent may withdraw his child from this instruction if he wishes to do so. This has not been done by any parent for the last two years. In the experience of the teacher, the parents do not object to religious teaching from the Bible. In Fellow-street, in the same parish, the Wesleyans have three schools, but in these, during the last twenty-five years, on one occasion only has a parent objected to the religious instruction, and the child was accordingly withdrawn from that class. In the Bethnal-green National School, several Jews attend, and though the master is quite willing to withdraw them from the religious teaching, most of them prefer to attend the ordinary Scripture lessons; and in one instance the parent even objected to his child not receiving instruction in the Church Catechism, on the ground that he was losing part of the instruction for which payment had been made, and he felt, consequently, somewhat injured. The master had been in charge of a large school at Leeds, with 500 boys of all sects, and never met with the religious difficulty; also at Northampton, with 300 boys, and at this latter place all had to go to the Church Sunday-school. As strong a proof of the absence of any feeling in the matter as could be adduced is found in the fact that, although children are repeatedly coming from and going to the Abbey-street British School, which is close by, yet in twelve years no change of this kind has ever taken place on account of the difference in religious teaching. In St. Peter's National Schools no difficulty had ever been expressed about religious teaching; the Church Catechism is taught, and Jews, Roman Catholics, and all sects have been in the school. Any child objecting to the instruction would be withdrawn from the religious lesson, but this has only happened once in several years. In St. James's-the-Less parochial schools, the master considered that religion formed no difficulty, as, though this was a national school, yet the religious instruction was not sectarian, and he found that twenty-nine out of every thirty of the parents preferred to have religious instruction of some sort, though they did not mind what, or really understand the difference between one form and another.

Some of the people visited by Mr. Bartley entertained strange notions as to what was meant by "secular education." Again, at a school opened in connection with the Hackney Working Men's Club, it was stated that the children belonged to all religious denominations: and that some cases have happened in which parents have removed their children from other schools to this because they were required to say the Church Catechism. The children not having been baptized, the parents considered that forcing them to say their godfathers and godmothers had given them their names, when they really had no godparents, was tantamount to teaching them to tell an untruth. Where the parents regularly send their children to school, there is observable a strong desire to pay for the education afforded. The sturdy and commendable spirit of self-reliance, so characteristic of the true English workmen, is apparent no less in London than in Yorkshire or Lancashire. He will be beholden to nobody, not even for education for his children. But this encouraging feature of English working-class character often becomes much influenced by the pressure of poverty, and how much of this is yet to be found in East London, is painfully indicated by the recent numerous cases of deaths from starvation recorded in the papers. Mr. Bartley says, speaking of a neighbourhood visited by him, "the character of this part of London may be judged of from the opinion of one of the inhabitants who, on being asked by the writer the way to the 'Ragged School,' replied 'The Ragged School? I don't know; we are all ragged here.'"

In the struggle for bread the assistance of the children is too valuable to be dispensed with. If they cannot help the parents in their occupations, they can at least "mind the babies" or run on errands, and so the chain of ignorance is maintained intact. Illustrations of the deficiency of education are not wanting. Speaking of one of the East London streets visited by him, Mr. Bartley says, "A few months back, the numbers ran 1, 2, 3, 9, 5, 6, the nine being a beautifully-polished brass number. For some time this was a puzzle; but it appeared that the resident had removed from another house, and thinking that the bright brass number was an ornament, and seeing no reason why his landlord should have it, had taken it down, and put it on a conspicuous part of the door of his new home." It is, however, a great mistake to suppose that these educational deficiencies are confined principally to the

working classes. They are to be largely found also among the trading classes. The actual obstacles however, are far less formidable than is frequently assumed, and though the difficulties consequent upon the attempted enforcement of any national system of instruction may be great, they are by no means insuperable. That the majority of parents, however poor, desire some amount of religious education, of an unsectarian character, is a fact which deserves attention as showing that should a certain amount of secular instruction be required from each child, there would be no difficulty, supposing the proper machinery to be provided, in supplementing it by a proportionate degree of religious education. We ought to derive a lesson from an instance related by the master of one of the Bethnal-green schools. On one occasion a Jew's child came, and his father, on being asked if he would prefer his child not to attend the religious instruction, said, "Oh no; you may teach him any amount of Christianity you like, and I will make him a Jew all the same." Suppose we say, "Educate the children which way you please, but we will make them Christians all the same. If we cannot do it in school, we will do it out of school." With such a spirit as this prevailing amongst us, the great educational difficulty would speedily be at an end. But we must teach by personal example as well as by precept.

CHINA AND HER MISSIONARIES.

II.

[The following is the second communication on the above subject from the Rev. Griffith John, of Hankow, who, we need hardly say, is an experienced missionary in connection with the London Missionary Society:—

How is it that the presence of foreigners for so long a period has done so little towards giving this great people an onward impulse? To have seen what they have seen, and heard what they have heard, ought to have been sufficient to stimulate thought and provoke to emulation. Yet we witness here but few signs of a new life. The fresh and vigorous civilisation of the West has been within their reach for a long period; but they have hardly condescended to notice it. None of them understand it; few see in it anything worthy of admiration or imitation; the official and literary classes hate it; the people simply know nothing about it. Our fine ships, magnificent steamers, palatial residences, &c., &c., touch not their unimpressible minds. They are satisfied with what they have, and convinced that our mode of life, though admirably adapted to our barbarous condition, would never do for civilised beings such as they imagine themselves to be. You point to certain marks and proofs of superiority, and expect the Chinaman to stare, fall on his knees, and confess his inferiority; but he only smiles at your simplicity, pities your weakness, and thanks heaven that he has been born a celestial and not a barbarian such as you are. As to almost everything that is not of China, and not strictly Chinese, the people are indifferent about it, whilst the ruling and literary classes despise it, and hate it. The Government and the literati are heartily tired of all foreigners, and sincerely wish them and their notions of modern inventions, modern improvements, and modern progress, at a safe distance from China. There is more than fear and policy in the opposition which China makes to free intercourse with western nations. That these exist, and that they operate most powerfully, is potent to all. The handful of Tartars who now hold the country, and the body of officials who govern it for the purpose of enriching themselves at the expense of the people, do, unquestionably, dread the admission of foreign enterprise and skill, and the spread of Christianity and useful knowledge, on purely selfish ground. They fear the light, for they know that it must bring with it a revolution sooner or later, and that in the struggle they would have nothing to gain, but everything to lose. They hate free intercourse, because it tends to enlighten the people, stimulate independent thought, and destroy the despotic rule of the Mandarins. To them the introduction of foreign elements is a matter of life and death, and to be resisted to the utmost. All this is true; but the man who sees nothing more than this in the nature of the resistance which China opposes to Western enterprise and skill, does not see to the bottom of the question. Behind the official class there is the powerful literary class. The literati are the Conservatives of China, and the formers and guides of public opinion, in so far as such a thing may be said to exist in this country. These men's eyes are intently fixed on the past. In their heart of hearts they believe that it cannot be excelled; and the supreme aim and end of their existence is to perpetuate it. According to their way of thinking, China has always been, is now, and is ever to be, the source and centre of true civilisation. Other nations are more or less civilised in proportion to the extent to which they have been brought under the influence of this great regenerating power. Whatever real knowledge, wisdom, or morality other states can boast of, they are indebted to the enlightening and transforming influences of the Middle Kingdom for it. What is new and foreign is barbarism pure and simple, and ought not to be admitted into the Central Land. To allow foreigners to reside in the interior would be a calamity and a disgrace. The soil is too sacred for their polluted feet. They must be confined to the outskirts of the empire, and there treated as savages. China is possessed of all that she can possibly need.

Her Emperor is the Heaven-appointed Lord of the World; her Confucius is the Teacher of ten thousand ages; her material resources are simply inexhaustible. If the outside barbarians cannot live without China, let them come as inferiors and suppliants, and China will have pity on them, and treat them lovingly. But they must not look for respect; they must not talk of equality and friendly intercourse; they must leave behind them their barbaric inventions; they must have no opinions of their own.

This, I believe, is no exaggerated statement of the views and feelings of the literati with respect to foreigners and everything that is foreign; and the anti-foreign, anti-progressive, exclusive, self-satisfied, proud, and supercilious spirit of this class is the resisting medium in China. This spirit is the slave and master of the officials. Whilst, on the one hand, they are bound to consult it, and to some degree satisfy it, in every step they take; it, on the other hand, is ever at their service, and always ready to second any anti-progressive policy the Government may desire to adopt. The officials can always appeal to this spirit against all innovations, feeling assured that the response will be prompt and hearty. They have only to send up the cry that the old régime is in danger, in order to set it in a blaze at any moment. But, on the other hand, this spirit is a very Moloch, which must be propitiated whenever the Government yields to pressure from without. The Tientsin treaty could never have been ratified by the Chinese Government without a war. To have offered no resistance would have been its ruin. We know that the rulers, as well as the literati, of China hate all foreigners most cordially and intensely, and that nothing would please them so much as their immediate extrusion from this goodly land. But though they did not hate us, they could not have complied ten years ago with the demands of the treaty powers without a fight; for that would have been to turn recreant to the cause of stagnation, and to forfeit for ever the respect, confidence, and homage of the great Conservative party. The blood spilt in that war was, in one sense, an offering presented to this Moloch by the Government. By means of that sacrifice the Government was able to justify itself in treating with barbarians on terms of equality, and making certain important concessions to them. The war, manifesting as it did the Government's intense hatred of foreigners and its inability to resist their power, was a proof that the ratification of the treaty was simply a measure of expediency. It showed to the literati that Fate was against China for a time, and they bowed to its decision. The great power of the literary class is often entirely overlooked by writers on China. It is, however, very potent and very influential; and the fact of its existence shows that the rulers of the country cannot always do just as they like; that if they desired to move onward, they would meet, in this obstructive animus of the literati, with a most formidable obstacle; and that, if China is ever to rise in the scale of civilisation, and to become truly great, she must be made to feel that she is pressed forward by forces strong and irresistible as destiny. I am not an advocate of warlike proceedings. I abhor war from the bottom of my heart. As a missionary, though I am prepared to yield to no one in love for my work, I would rather see my mission broken up to-morrow than see one shot fired in defence of the Gospel in this city. But more of this anon. It is certain, however, that if the Government of China is ever to enter on a path of progress, if her resources are to be developed, if relations with her are to be friendly, peaceful, and lasting, and if a perpetual end is to be put to wars and rumours of wars, it is certain, if these desirable results are ever to be achieved, that every timid, vacillating, truckling policy must be laid aside, and that the treaty powers must make her see and feel that there is no alternative for her but to scrupulously carry out her obligations, and to accede to every right and equitable demand. Let the officials and literati understand this distinctly and unmistakably, and we shall have very little more, if any more, fighting with China. The wars of the past were absolutely necessary to the existence of relations with China. I do not think there is an absolute necessity that another should ever be waged. The lesson required has been taught. China knows now that she cannot oppose force to force, and that what the great contracting powers mean to do they can do. The only question which really perplexes her at present is this—"What do these powers mean to do? and how far may they be resisted without coming into actual collision?" In order to set her mind at rest, she has only to be convinced that they mean what they say, nothing more, nothing less. But it is highly important that what we demand should be strictly just, and that a spirit of genuine fairness and high honour should pervade our whole intercourse with her. Then we might expect to see China move on; and to hear her (or our children at least to hear her) in future years bless, and not curse, the hand that roused her from her lethargy, and gave to her her first impulse.

Behind the literati are the people. These are, on the whole, quiet, industrious, and harmless. They seem to be passive with respect to foreigners and foreign relations, except when moved to antagonism by their superiors. It would be too much to say that they have any particular affection for us, or that they desire intercourse with us; but it would be equally wide of the mark to say that they are ill-disposed towards us. Of course, I am not now speaking of those who have come into close contact with us, whether merchants or missionaries. Among these there are many thousands who are warmly attached to us, who desire sincerely that China

should come into warmer and more intimate relations with the nations of the West, who readily acknowledge the superiority of these nations in many respects, and who regret and pity the blindness of those who set their faces so resolutely against all improvement. I am speaking now of the people at large; and of them it may be said, without fear of contradiction, that they neither love nor hate us; that they would rejoice in any relation with us that would bring to them any obvious benefits; that they are susceptible of good impressions; that we have no quarrel with them; and that, if we had to deal with them only, our intercourse with them would be eminently peaceful and satisfactory. But they are in the hands, and under the control, of the official and literary classes; they are ever obedient to impulses which descend upon them from above; they have been taught to think that their rulers alone have a right to think on public matters; they think that, as the Mandarins are paid to attend to the politics of the country, it would be an absurdly gratuitous act on their part to pay the slightest attention to them; they feel that it is for them simply to obey orders whenever issued; and they are most cruel and revengeful whenever their suspicions are aroused, and their passions excited. The Government can do with them what it likes in times of peace. Let them be told in a language which cannot be mistaken that they are expected to treat all foreigners kindly and respectfully, and they will obey to the letter; and residence in the interior will be as safe as at the open ports. This, however, the Government will not do; and the consequence is that there is a lurking suspicion among the people that the rulers of the country are opposed to friendly intercourse with foreign nations; that the foreigners are only tolerated in the country; that they would be expelled immediately if it were possible; that their being driven out ultimately is only a question of time; and that, therefore, a man who wishes to live quietly, and die in peace, had better have as little to do with them as possible. The petty annoyances to which we are subjected in our intercourse with the people have their root in this fact.

GRIFFITH JOHN.

Hankow, December 31, 1869.

LITERATURE, SCIENCE, AND ART.

Mr. Sims Reeves has left England for Italy.

Messrs. Longmans announce that Mr. Disraeli's new novel, "Lothair," will be published on the 2nd of May.

Mrs. Beecher Stowe is one of the authors of a new book, intended to teach the "proprieties" to young ladies.

A life of the late Mr. Joseph Sturge is about to be given to the French public. It is from the pen of Professor G. de Felice, of Montauban.

A movement has been set on foot for the purpose of erecting a memorial to the memory of the late Lord Brougham in the shape of a central hall and free library.

It is said that Jeff. Davis is writing a novel, which he will complete before the year is out. It relates to the Mexican war, is not to touch on recent politics, and will be published first in England.

Mr. Matthews has become the owner of Mr. Holman Hunt's picture, "The Finding of Our Saviour in the Temple," which has been exhibited in many parts of the country.

Messrs. W. H. Allen and Co. will publish early next week, "Four Lectures," by Keshub Chunder Sen, edited by Miss Sophia Dobson Collet. They will be followed by a further selection of the Brahma-Somaj Tracts and an historical sketch of the sect.

The Graphic says:—"This year's Royal Academy Exhibition promises to be a most interesting one—a series of surprises—many artists having laid aside their well-known style and struck out in new directions. Mr. Calderon has deserted his charming princesses for allegory, and Mr. Orchardson has boldly ventured to sea in a north-country fishing coble. Mr. Edward Armitage has surpassed himself this year in two fine pictures of Gethsemane and a scene from Æsop. Mr. Faed, although still keeping to his simple, touching cottage scenes, has never painted in so masterly and sweeping a style, as in this year's picture, 'The Day's Work is Done.' Mr. Val Prinsep will display his great powers to advantage in two works of a totally different nature, and we are puzzled to know which will be most admired, his 'Cleopatra,' or his 'Parlour Maid.' Mr. Watts sends a flying, laughing 'Will-o'-the-Wisp,' and a smaller work, symbolising a grand range of mountains, both fine works by this true artist. Mr. Yeames has an important work representing the ceremony of washing the poor woman's feet; and Mr. Story (always remembered by his inimitable 'Dancing Lesson') has this year two pictures for exhibition, a 'Singing Lesson,' and 'Only a Rabbit.' Illness, we are sorry to say, has been rife among our friends, and every one will be sorry to hear that neither Mr. Leighton, R.A., nor Mr. Nicol, A.R.A., will be represented this year."

KNIGHTSBRIDGE BARRACKS.—A deputation waited on Mr. Cardwell on Monday to present a memorial praying for the removal of Knightsbridge Barracks. Lord Churchill, Mr. Ward Hunt, M.P., and Mr. W. H. Smith, M.P., supported the proposal. Mr. Cardwell admitted the desirability of what was suggested to be done, but he intimated that the Government at present had no satisfactory plan by which the evil complained of could be obviated.

Literature.

"IMPERFECT SYMPATHIES."

Have we not all wondered sometime or another at the strange affinities and repulsions that have determined our friendships and the circles of our acquaintance? We could never explain these although we tried; but we felt they were none the less potent on that account. We have met men from whom we have at first been repelled by such marked peculiarities of manner or address, that we confessed to ourselves we could never take to them as we had wished and hoped. We even wondered how on earth our friends could be so enthusiastic over them as they were. And yet, after awhile, have we not come to acknowledge an unalloyed pleasure in the society of these very people, and learned to love them the more for their bluntnesses and peculiarities, as being but the rough rind, hiding and protecting a core all the sweeter for its outward crustiness? We found at length that the rough rind (in spite of appearances and strong assertions) was not cherished, but rather scorned by those of whose nature it formed a part; so that we could well say with the poet: Our friends we

"Love the more

For those parts of themselves that they scorn."

On the other hand, have we not often met with people who seemed at once and without effort to meet us on our own ground, to mirror our smiles, to anticipate all our needs, so as to tempt us, indeed, to unbosoming something more than ordinarily secret and special. Then all at once there was as complete an end of sympathy as if two wicked sprites had wantonly closed the sluices of the heart, so that no water could any more play from the one into the other. We mistook self-satisfied egotism for sympathy, which only shows its exclusiveness when an appeal is made for real disinterestedness. We have met these people again and again; and always before we parted from them, there came something or other that acted like a non-conductor of sympathy. Both minds were giving out messages, but the articulation was incoherent, and there was no return current. Isolation and not insulation was the result. We are reluctantly compelled to admit that in reading this very readable memoir of Robert Lee we have been too often compelled to fancy that he had as many points of repulsion as of attraction; that his influence, in spite of a certain apparent width of intellectual sympathy, tended towards isolation, rather than to the insulation which freely conveys and unites by subtlest affinities of sentiment and sympathy.

Our readers are doubtless sufficiently aware that Dr. Robert Lee was for many years one of the most prominent men in the Church of Scotland, that he held the chair of Biblical Criticism in the University of Edinburgh, and was one of Her Majesty's Chaplains, as well as Dean of the Chapel Royal, and minister of Old Greyfriars Parish. Better still is he known as the introducer and main upholder of the "Innovations," over which there arose such a noise in the north, as to vex and trouble the Church Courts,—Presbytery, Synod and Assembly—for years; the difficulty only being got over by the sudden and touching death of the offender. The "Innovations" consisted in the introduction of a printed liturgy, the use of an organ, the kneeling at prayers, and the standing while singing. Nothing very outrageous an Englishman would be inclined to say at once. But the doctrine, discipline, and worship of the Scotch Church are so closed-in and guarded by precedent and tradition, and the Courts are constructed for such immediate action in the case of any departure from the authorised forms or formulas, that it was scarcely to be expected Dr. Robert Lee could escape. For to the Scotch ecclesiastical mind, there was more than appeared on the surface. Dr. Lee's departure from the ordinary form of Scotch worship—dull and uniform enough in all conscience!—was but typical of his still more serious departure from the strict and severe interpretation of the Standards of the Church. He was latitudinarian, some said he was almost unitarian; and therefore the leaders of the more Conservative party felt themselves called on to take action. And certainly Dr. Robert Lee did not seek to conciliate his brethren—did not show much readiness to yield a point for peace's sake. Nay, though he seems to have worshipped the Church with a devotion scarcely consistent with some of his positions, he is ever ready to reproach all who are opposed to him—the great body of ministers, the Church in fact, as being narrow-minded

and ignorant. His brethren were bigots of the first water—self-interested hypocrites, self-seeking contemptible knaves, no less. Yet some allowance is surely to be made for those who are concerned as to the faithful observance of their vows, and are anxious at the same time as to the way in which others regard theirs. Nothing has more pained us, in this memoir, nor more sorrowfully repelled us from the subject even when we fancied some new point of sympathy was being opened up, than the isolation in which he seems to have proudly wrapt himself, if indeed he did not exult in it, and which his biographer seems to have a special delight in placarding wherever he possibly can. Scarcely a page but we find some hint of Dr. Lee's total estrangement from every member of his Presbytery. When writing to Mr. Story, his biographer, to the Rev. Mr. Paisley, and to other correspondents, the ever-recurring "overtone" of Dr. Lee's song is this, "Write often; I have 'no one here who has any sympathy with me' on those things on which we delight to expatiate." Not a very attractive certificate certainly. Edinburgh Presbytery is not the smallest in Scotland; and one is compelled to acknowledge to himself reluctantly that the man who could not find a single friend among its members, nor even one person of whom he "could say a good word," had himself some of the blame of his isolation and of the attitude which others took up towards him.

We have said Dr. Lee worshipped the Church—had high flown ideas of the Broad-Church order as to what a national Church should be, and yet he had no true notion of comprehension. A writer, not without some thoughtfulness, has well said, "An Established Church is the narrowest of all sects. It has the genuine mark of a sect; its preachers preaching only in their own pulpits, and excluding from them all not of their own body. It is, in fact, the great bar to Catholicity, and a real bar too." When the proposal was made to open the pulpits of the Established Church to Dissenters, Dr. Lee opposed it in the Assembly with all his might, arguing that the National Church was not a sect, and that the very way to make it so was to open the door to the sectaries in this manner. And who were these sectaries? Those who rightfully claimed to represent the National Church of Scotland in its reformed integrity, the bulk of them having only separated from the Establishment on a question arising out of changes opposed to "the fundamental law of the Church of Scotland that no minister can be intruded on a congregation contrary to the wishes of the people." And how did Dr. Lee argue it? His arguments are well worth attention as indicating the breadth of his school!—

"Why is this proposed? To exhibit the unity of the Church? What does this phrase mean? That there is unity among all the Protestant sects—Episcopalian, Presbyterian, Independent? If they are united in all matters of importance why are they yet separated? Why are they sects? If they are not united in all matters of moment, then this declaration of their unity is a declaration of a thing that does not exist. It is therefore an act of hypocrisy or an illusion. Is there not something incongruous in our making laws declaring persons to be ministers whom our Church holds not to be ministers."

The essence of sectarianism speaks there; for how could the Church of Scotland withdraw from those it had itself ordained the title of ministers when it had never deposed them; nay, when they had voluntarily separated from it on the ground of its departure from its pristine purity and fundamental laws? But the sectarian sting of the whole speech lies in the confession that "foreign churches stand 'on a very different footing from the Dissenters 'at home.' What a commentary on Scotch Broad-Church toleration and comprehension!

Dr. Lee had a very strict idea as to what was allowed within the Church on certain points, and always looked down on the Free Church leaders as being mere schismatics; and yet it is evident on the face of it that he himself was at least as much a schismatic essentially as they were. What we mean is this—that strict application of the law would have certainly proved that he scarce had a right to be in the Church; and that he was dividing the Church upon points on which he was morally precluded from moving by his own subscription. For who can doubt what a civil court would have said to Dr. Lee's divergence from the plain meaning of the Confession of Faith? Of course, so long as a man is silent regarding any marked change that has come upon him as to his beliefs, he is safe; but Dr. Lee delighted in defying and in attacking the orthodox constructions, so much so that he was often reproved by his best friends on grounds of policy, and dissuaded from publishing sermons that were conceived to go just a little too far. Considering that Dr. Lee was generally so defiant and regardless alike of conse-

quences and of the convictions of others, we are astonished that he ever listened to such "self-interested" counsel. We are sorry to have to write in this strain of a man who, as we have said, attracts us in so many ways. But his biographer seems to have made up his mind to present to us nothing but the pugnacious church-court debater, and to call on us to admire and even to bow down before the picture; and this we really cannot in conscience consent to do. Dr. Lee appears to have been very true to his friends; but they were characteristically few. Besides, the friendship looks to have been very unequal, so far as we can see, with respect to certain rights of old claimed on both sides as being essential to it.

Dr. Lee, in one word, was a martyr to the Broad-Church idea. Certainly, such a man was not in his proper place in a Church which lays such a heavy armour of dogma upon those who would defend it, and which deems the constant wearing of this weighty suit as being the first preliminary to faithful service. His life was spent in an endless contest about points that were entangled in the most essential substance of Christian symbols, yet he chose to devote the whole force of his rare dialectical intellect to weaving a formal network to keep up a show of distinctions to save him from the effect of discipline. It scarcely seems to us so noble a life as it might have been.

Dr. Lee was a man of brave and honest nature, and of indefatigable purpose, who paid the penalty of holding to a false position. He seemed to have got an idea that the freedom of thought *legally* secured to clergymen on this side the Channel is the one thing needful to realise a veritable ecclesiastical Goshen; and he fought to secure to Scotland some of the inestimable advantages supposed to accrue from such an arrangement. The traditions of three hundred years were all against him, and he himself had subscribed, "as the confession of my faith," articles of so tensely logical Calvinistic structure, that, while we find ourselves for most part in fullest sympathy with his doubts and struggles and revolt, we cannot bring ourselves to see that his position was at all consistent. The only way, indeed, in which Dr. Lee could possibly have made his testimony consistent and prevailing, would have been to leave the Church and throw himself upon the suffrages of his congregation. No sooner has he excited our sympathies by sincere expressions of spiritual desire and aspiration, and the aptest solution of persecuting difficulties, than he drags us back again into the dusty arena of personal dislike and envenomed contempt. It has been said by one whom both Dr. Lee and his biographer would appear to set some store by, that "contempt is a dangerous element to sport in." We have hardly ever felt it more than when reading this book; from beginning to end it is one stream of contemptuous invective. Even its occasional tenderness loses all its sweetness from the incessant infusion of these acids. Yet the book has a value of its own—it is well and eloquently written, and claims attention for the peculiar light it throws upon the condition of Scottish theological thought, and the inevitable transition towards greater freedom, of which it is itself one of the first proofs, and is very likely to be one of the most powerful promoting causes.

NOVELS.

Longleat. By ELLERAY LAKE. In Three Volumes. (Sampson Low, Son and Marston.) We have read this book with mingled feelings of pain and admiration. It is painful to admit the stern faithfulness of the author's portraiture of human character, while at the same time one cannot fail to admire the extraordinary skill and consistency of purpose and plan which a careful reading of the story discloses. Ellerray Lake, whose acquaintance we now make for the first time, is worthy to take rank as a writer of fiction with the authoress of "Adam Bede," and we shall be much surprised if this verdict be not shortly confirmed by the reading public. The author's knowledge of the human heart is so deep, that it leads him or her often whither the unsuspecting reader is loth to follow. So much innocent beauty, such manly virtue, such heroic battling with the resistless tide of passion, who can bear that these shall go for nothing in the supreme hour of trial, and that a long train of the most bitter woes shall follow one rash deed, one unguarded disclosure! But it is so in life. It may not be our experience, or yours, good reader; but it is not left to the novel-writer to discover that life is full of disappointments and anomalies. Peerless beauty, rich mental endowments, pride of ancestry, are too often passports to a life of "trouble in the flesh." The opening chapter of the book is full of promise. It introduces us to the mischievous spirited clatter of a room full of school-girls.

"In a small, cheerful room, adjoining the music-saloon, six or seven girls had assembled, apparently for fun and gossip; for though one professed to be sketch-

* *Life and Remains of Robert Lee, D.D., F.R.S.E.* By ROBERT HERBERT STORY, Minister of Roseneath. With Introduction by Mr. Oliphant. (Hurst and Blackett.)

ing 'The Dying Gladiator,' and another to be translating Tasso, both sketch and poem were too frequently neglected to be called engrossing studies. The rest were literally idle. A very sprightly-looking girl reclined upon a couch and quizzed the 'workers.'

"Ada," she inquired, 'how soon do you intend to finish off your pugilist?'

"I don't know," was the answer, rather pettishly given. 'And I do wish, Kate, that you would not talk slang.'

"Did I use slang? That's the result of reading the sporting news to papa. I'll tell him society doesn't approve of filial attentions. And there is Mary Hereford, with astonished eyebrows at your temper."

"The Italian student had raised them, certainly."

"Well," said Ada, laughing, 'it would vex a saint. Instead of agony in this eye I can only get a leer. Could anything be more absurd?'

"She held up the drawing."

"Nothing in the world," said Mary, emphatically.

"Humph! It wouldn't be you if you lost the chance of a sarcasm," Ada retorted.

"My dear, I only agree with your opinions; to have done otherwise would have been an error in candour and in judgment. But if you have illustrated Byron's Sines, no criticism need affect you."

"I do wish, for once, that Miss Frost would walk in," said Ada, pushing back her hair and throwing down her chalk. 'This heat is intolerable.'

"Miss Frost?" said Kate, looking puzzled.

"Have you forgotten that Helena christened her 'the Refrigerator,' because she declared the thermometer went down in her presence? What a freezing manner she had. I did detest her."

"So did I," said Kate, warmly; 'and I never felt so conscientious as when I let her see it.'

"It was like Helena Davenant's impertinence," said Mary Hereford. 'I have often wondered that Mrs. Elmore had patience with her, even for the short time she was here.'

This same Helena Davenant is the heroine of the story. He is soon to be the bride of the Earl of Longleat, and is thus introduced:—

"Seventeen years ago, this New Year's Eve, Helena first saw the light. Born amid wintry snows, it seemed as if their purity had left an ineffaceable reflex on the maiden's face, so fully had the promise of her early loveliness been redeemed. Yet her life had been 'lonely' as the snows. The singular circumstances of her father's history had overshadowed it—a history unknown to her and never inquired into. She only knew that he was graver than other men, that solitude was his choice, that she was not brought up as other girls, of whom she knew very little; but it never occurred to her that all this was extraordinary, simply because it had always been so. Helena had never known her mother. One single allusion to her in childhood had been so angrily checked by her father, that with that tender name she associated only terror and reproof. And now, for the first time, as she sat so still, stroking Fiddle's glossy head, and looking at the flames, she was thinking it all over, and wondering why her father was so stern and grave, why there had never been that confidence, that loving, caressing fondness on his part, that proud, protecting, indulgent care for her which always, somehow, seems to be so natural between father and daughter, when childhood has blossomed into maidenhood, and he sees in her again the mother whom he wooed and won in that far-off spring-time of his life, when love and youth went hand in hand, prepared to meet all storms with smiles, if only they might meet them together. No, there had been no such tender love to sweeten this girl's life; so she sat dreamily thoughtful, until the timepiece chiming nine aroused her."

And the Earl:—

"Ernest Cecil Cranford, Earl of Longleat, Lord of Ruthven, with a string of titles to follow, was just twenty-eight years of age, the possessor of enormous wealth, of considerable intellectual endowments, the sole idol of his mother, the envy of many a lordly friend, the prize coveted by every match-making matron, he had, apparently, no thought of marriage. As yet he had seen no woman who approached his ideal, or who, on acquaintance, satisfied his critical judgment. His mother sometimes feared that he would never marry, and that the old race would die out, but even she did not know that a slight deformity, which he never once forgot, and which had won for him in childhood from a poor Scotchwoman the title of 'pair lameter,' was a thorn which so keenly pierced his sensitive nature that he had often vowed in silent bitterness he would 'ask no woman to bind herself to a scathed tree.'

What bright anticipations might not one cherish from the union of two such hearts! But two circumstances occurred to disturb the even flow of their love. The Earl, in his anxiety to shield his wife from dishonour, would not disclose to her a fact which came to his knowledge before he married her, namely, that she was not the legitimate issue of her father, General Davenant. That this was her father's misfortune, not his disgrace, can only be asserted here; the explanation is given in the story. The Earl's reticence about this matter, his evident shrinking from an avowal of "something," which, if known by the Countess, would in some way affect their relation to each other, put her upon a false scent, and awoke her jealousy. The second circumstance to which we referred was the "Platonic" friendship which existed between the Countess of Longleat and Mr. Glen Ross, her husband's dearest and worthiest friend. He is thus described:—

"Mr. Ross was a true Celt; swarthy as an Egyptian, with the clearest olive tint; his features strongly marked and perfectly chiselled; his eyes dark and penetrating, with an expression that seemed to combine the fierceness and grand repose of the eagle's; his hair of almost purple blackness, hung in heavy masses on either side his face, and even swept down upon his shoulders as if to indicate the richness of his natural gifts; his beard was long, and soft as a Turk's or Rabbi's. There was a power in his face that was worth all the other endowments with which God had gifted him."

We must not pursue the sad story further, but it is only fair to add that the author has written nothing to which the most scrupulous of readers can object on the score of good taste and moral influence. If the facts are unwelcome, "so much the worse for the facts."

There are three characters of singular loveliness and strength, who each play a brave part in bringing back the wanderers and giving to the melancholy series of events narrated here a hopeful termination. These are Elsie Cameron Helena Davenant's faithful nurse, Edward Seymour a Manchester clergyman, and Margaret, his sister. We cannot better conclude our notice of this book than by giving the following extract, which indicates the nature of the work in which these two last named were engaged, and the manner in which they fulfilled the duties of the relationship they sustained to each other.

"Come here, Maggie!" he (Edward Seymour) said.

"I want your opinion of this scheme."

"She came to the back of the chair, took his hand in one of her cold ones; with the other she smoothed the hair from his forehead, and kissed it."

"What scheme, your Reverence?"

"Don't you think that, this winter, it would be an excellent plan to open the church for the purpose of giving some kind of entertainment to the people?"

"She looked at him incredulously."

"An entertainment, Edward?"

"I use the word for want of a better, a more expressive one. I don't mean a service, but something which will attract them, and give them a pleasant, instructive evening. See here. I have a list of subjects jotted down which I think might be discussed without despoiling the church; and why that should be left in darkness through the week, when an inviting ginshop stands open next to it, I cannot imagine. It strikes me that the Devil and the orthodox are brought into collision, and that the former has the better of it."

"She read over his shoulder—"

"Good music essential to Divine worship."

"Very good," she said, laughing. 'I hope John Croft will profit by it, and learn that there are other tunes beside the Old Hundred. He always will bring it in somehow, until his next neighbour has to nudge him. When I spoke to him, he scratched his head, and said, "He ne'er had a ear for tunes, but he thowt it wur o' reet."

"He has more than once tested my gravity," Edward said, laughing heartily.

"Town and Country—Man's Work and God's."

"She shook her head."

"You will bring more discontent into Angel Meadow, Edward. I laughed, the first night I came, at your delight on seeing the flowers I brought. Now, the sight of a bouquet inclines me to cry."

"He threw back his head, and said, anxiously,

"Are you quite happy here, Maggie?"

"She raised herself on tip-toes, and, stooping over the chair, closed his lips with a kiss."

"It is the contrast, Edward, between God's work and man's. Go on."

"Toil a curse; work a blessing."

"Ah, I see. You mean that toil is over-work—a strain imposed by tyranny or by necessity; but work is a healthful blessing, stimulating heart and brain."

"Just so, my darling. My exact meaning, only expressed better than I could have done. Stay."

"He took a bit of paper, and noted her words exactly; at which she smiled and blushed."

"Too fine a distinction for Angel Meadow, my reverend brother. The next."

"Instead of giving the next, he kissed the white hand that held his own."

"My precious sister! you are a help and comfort to me," he said.

"Don't be sweethearting your own Sis," she said, lightly. 'What a devoted husband you will make—but too demonstrative for fashionable society. A worthy son of papa, who likes to show his love for his wife, as he did when their marriage-bells rang.'

"Speaking of marriage-bells; I wonder," said Edward, 'how the Earl and his bride are? I suppose she has grown quite wifely, though, now.'

"The old Bronwylls title, 'Our Earl,' was never used in Edgeware-street now. Margaret rarely named Lord Cranford; and Edward had now and then had a fleeting suspicion, which he could not have defined, but which had left an impression upon his mind that prevented him from talking much of the Earl."

"Go on," said Margaret, not replying to his wonder."

"Home."

"Good. I will tell the wives it is for them; but they must invite their husbands."

"Saturday night: An Especial Address to the Working Men."

"She nodded. 'They need it, some of them. I have a lecture in store for John Croft and Edward Wardle. The bairns did not get their promised new shoes last week. I am afraid the "Three Bells" got the wages instead. Well!'

"Little Children."

"I like that. What a congregation of mothers you will have! But, Eddy, dear, isn't it a funny subject for a bachelor?"

"No," he said. 'The swarming, neglected little ones in Angel Meadow have made me sadder, and, I hope, a more thoughtful man. Their future is the future of England. Manchester is only a type of other towns and cities. It does not require that a man should be married to make him feel the responsibility of bringing up the little ones.'

We can scarcely excuse ourselves for omitting a sketch of old Elsie, the Scotch nurse, whose motherly tenderness and grand piety shed an influence on all who come near her. The artist who could paint such a picture as hers, could scarcely fail to write from the highest motives and with the best results. But our space is exhausted, and we must content ourselves by begging our readers to make her acquaintance for themselves."

Hagar. By the Author of "St. Olave's," "Meta's"

"Faith," &c. In Three Volumes. (Hurst and Blackett.) Once granted that a three-volume novel is worth reading, and may be read with enjoyment, this one deserves to rank amongst those of a high, if not the highest, order. There are no tiresome complications about it. One knows pretty well how the main crises are going to be brought about, or rather that certain desirable consummations are to be effected; and, for the rest, the little tangles which need to be unravelled serve to sustain the interest to the last. There are some good sketches of character in the book. Hagar herself, though not the heroine, imparts a sad interest to the story. She is a single woman of middle age, living with her brother in a deserted family mansion, Morriesthorpe Grange, a house about which mystery hangs until far on in the story. To her custody is committed the real heroine, who enters upon the scene with only a Christian name, Opal, and in the arms of a nurse-girl, who has brought her over from Australia at the dying request of the child's mother to place her under the charge of Hagar. This is cutting a very long story short. The author has depicted Hagar's character with much skill. A crossing of her love in early days, and a long struggle with adverse fortune, brought out, almost to the exclusion of the softer graces, a stern faithfulness and a capacity of endurance which command the reader's high admiration. But through life, and even to the chamber of death, though not, as the writer intimates, to the very last moment of life, Hagar carries with her, not hatred, nor a revengeful spirit, but a proud, unyielding, unforgiving heart towards the man who wronged her in her girlhood's days by breaking his troth to her and marrying another. This spirit, thus cherished from day to day, and year to year, is like a canker eating into her heart's life. It transforms the promptings of affection into the stern command of duty; and so this woman, with the true martyr spirit, nurses her pride and self-esteem until she suffers it quite to blind her to the claims and the consolations of religion. Once, when Opal tried to bring her to better thoughts, she replied, "I don't know about goodness, child, but I've tried to do what's right. I never did any wrong to anybody, and that's more than many can say; ay, more than some can say who think they've taken their ticket safe for glory, and expect to get a shining robe and a crown, and all the rest of it that people talk about." But Hagar was glad to feel her way back to a safer road before she quite left the world. "Tremblingly those dying fingers sought each other. Then Hagar's Winter's lips moved again very slowly, and with long pauses she whispered the prayer which for a lifetime had been left unspoken." The main interest of the story, however, centres in little Opal, who when quite a child was adopted into the family of a village doctor, consisting of himself (Dr. Guildeastern), his deceased wife's sister, Miss Armitage, whom he did not subsequently marry, and his son and daughter, Lancelot and Eulie. Add to these another playmate, Gilbert Lester, and what better material could be required to furnish the broad outlines of the picture? How Gilbert went away to the American backwoods when a youth, and returned in the strength and beauty of manhood to find himself more frightened to speak of love to Eulie than to face a buffalo or a Red Indian; how Opal and Lancelot each thought the other cold and fickle, and tired of the other's company, when both in reality shrunk from saying or otherwise betraying what they did feel about the matter; how Miss Armitage schemed to keep these two apart, and to promote a more desirable matrimonial arrangement for Lancelot and miserably failed in her enterprise;—all these things are admirably told, and they make a story, as we have said, full of interest from first to last.

St. Bede's. A Novel in Three Volumes. By Mrs. EILLOART. (Hurst and Blackett.) There is not much to be said for this story. Mrs. Eilloart constructs minor plots with facility, and for that reason her writings are not without a certain relish of mild sensationalism. But one is apt to put to himself the question *curi bono* as he closes the third volume of a work like this. There is no knowledge of men, manners, or things, gained in the reading of it, and the sympathetic reader finds that his tenderest susceptibilities have been played upon by a fiction within a fiction; the hero and heroine, with their relatives and friends, including amongst the latter many subscribers to Mudie's and other Library Companies, find at last that their happiness has been blighted, or their momentary tranquillity disturbed, as the case may be, by a miserable phantom. Norman Launceston, whom all love and admire, is about to marry the girl he loves, as a sensible man would do, when it is revealed to him that he carries in his blood a fearful hereditary poison, which leaves him no alternative but to forego the pleasant change in circumstances which he had anticipated. The immediate result of his self-abnegation is a terrible attack of brain fever, or something akin to it, from which he recovers, to review calmly his position and determine to live nobly and bravely for the sake of the girl he may not marry. Fortunately for him, Kitty does no less, and when five years have come and gone, it is discovered that Norman Launceston is not Norman Launceston, but somebody else, and therefore that he has not got the hereditary taint aforesaid, and may marry Kitty as soon as he likes; with which pleasant discovery we can afford to leave

BRIEF NOTICES.

Heroes of Hebrew History. By SAMUEL WILBERFORCE, D.D., Lord Bishop of Winchester. (London: Strahan and Co.) In the two or three lines which form the preface of the bishop's book, we are advised that these representations of "Heroes of Hebrew History," with the exception of "David the King," have already appeared in the pages of *Good Words*, and that he regards them as "sketches." They are something more. Some are almost studies. Take, for instance, this passage in the "Moses," depicting his character and circumstances during his sojourn in Midian:—

"Yet was not all sorrow. It was a sharp discipline through which he was passing, but it was the discipline of God. We may even read its progress in the name he gives to his second son. There is a certain tinge of bitterness in the 'Banishment' which breathes through the name of Gershom; but in Eliezer, the second, 'My God is my help,' we may measure something of what he had learned whom God was training. That fiery Levite spirit was being duly tempered; that longing he had for the redressing of wrong by the arm of flesh was being curbed; that lofty estimate of what his natural powers, his high attainments, and his pride of place might enable him to accomplish, was being brought down to the far stronger basis of a self-distrusting humility. What a training it was! with the half-stranger wife, unable even to the end to enter with wife-like sympathy into his deepest life and greatest hopes; following the almost self-guided steps of the flock of Jethro; mounting with them as the summer heats increased from the lower valleys high up into the roots of the great peaks of that stony range; listening to the unceasing voice of the crumbling rocks as in that silent air their roaring fall echoed through the stillness of the day; communing with his own heart and with his God, hardly daring to look back at the past, and having before him no revealed future; his life suddenly shut in by bars as close as those with which the ribs of the mountain closed the ever-narrowing valley! Had it not been his own rash, impetuous zeal which had led to such an issue? Might he not have stirred to fiercer heat the Coptic jealousy and hatred toward Israel? Might he not by this uncommanded act of violence have put back their deliverance, and checked the present development of the merciful purposes of God for them? Dark thoughts like these, heavy-faced and threatening in their presages, would close in upon him in the waste places in the wilderness, and threaten to bow down utterly his spirit. What a discipline it all was; what a preparation; what a strengthening of the will; what a beating down of self; what a realisation of God! How in after years, when again he trod the same paths, but with the thousands of Israel to guide instead of the few sheep in the wilderness, must he have looked back on these days! How would every familiar mountain scene, with its marvellous power of imbibing and returning to us the long-past life, remind him of those years of meditation, prayer, and silence, and again and again amidst the sneering of the stiff-necked people how must it have animated his fainting heart for new acts of faith, patience, and daring."

In this quotation, and throughout the whole book, the facile and finished touch is to be found. Were it not that we are aware of the many drawings which were made by the Great Masters for their pictures, we should be led by the easy flow of the style to imagine that no labour could have been spent in writing what we find so pleasant to read. There are, besides, frequent traces of acquaintance with historical and legendary lore which afford further evidence of the author's diligence and care. The learning and the art are alike concealed, but both are to be discovered. There is much art, for instance, in the following reference: it is one of the last finishing touches in the portrait of Joshua—"Then, his work done, the great general retired to the lot which, at the express command of God the grateful people had given him, and there he built on Mount Ephraim the city of Timnath Serah. There he dwelt in peace for some eighteen years of rest. We of this generation can understand, perhaps, more perfectly than most, how in those last years the grey hairs of the old conqueror and national deliverer were esteemed; how, long after his victories were all accomplished, his countrymen still felt safe in the enjoyment in their days of peace from the consciousness that the great chieftain yet lived amongst them; how they hung with admiring confidence on him who in his own person set ever before them the visible token of their God's past blessings to them. For to us, too, has it been given in the long years of peace which bitter war has bought, to look with ever deepening admiration upon—

"The statesman warrior, moderate, resolute,
Whole in himself—a common good;

Great in council and great in war,
Foremost captain of his time.
Rich in saving common sense,
And as the greatest only are,
In his simplicity sublime.
O good grey head which all men knew
O voice from which their omens all men drew,
O iron nerve to true occasion true."

These portraits having been originally painted for the public, they are not marred by the ordinary canonical treatment. Nothing is introduced which will occasion either perplexity or pain. The service of the truth has been considered rather than the service of the sect.

Nationality; or, the Laws relating to Subjects and Aliens, considered with a View to Future Legislation. By the Right Hon. Sir ALEX. COCKBURN, Lord Chief Justice of England. (London: William Ridgway.) This is a very timely treatise. The Lord Chief Justice has given a summary of the laws of European States and those of North and South America relating to nationality; he has pointed out where they differ and

where different laws might either come into conflict with or neutralise each other; he has also given some suggestions as to alterations needful in our English laws on this subject. The English doctrine of "indelible allegiance" has given great offence to the people of the United States. Sir Alex. Cockburn points out that the American law, borrowed from our own, is exactly the same in relation to this point. The Lord Chief Justice recommends the abandonment of the doctrine. He differs from the report of the Commissioners in one important matter; he would have nationality depend on descent, not on birth within the British dominions irrespective of parentage; the alteration of the law in this respect would assimilate it to the general law of Europe, and so tend to prevent future complications with foreign States. Sir Alex. Cockburn would also give naturalised aliens all the privileges of British subjects, the only restriction being on their right to the possession of British ships.

The Fatherhood of God. (First Cunningham Lecture.) By ROBERT S. CANDLISH, D.D. Fifth Edition. With a Supplementary Volume. (Edinburgh: Adam and Charles Black.) The supplementary volume to this latest edition of Dr. Candlish's "Fatherhood of God," contains his reply to Dr. Crawford and answers to some other objections and charges. It is wholly controversial, and might with advantage have been suppressed. Dr. Candlish is a generous opponent, but it is impossible for any one, save the combatants, to take any interest in the polemics of this volume. The book itself will long continue a very valuable addition to our theological reading. We prize so highly the noble conception of Divine Sonship given by Dr. Candlish, his refusal to resolve the idea into that of mere creatureship, and his constant reference to Christ as the type of the filial character, that we almost forget the theological hair-splitting of the treatise, and can tolerate some serious errors in the metaphysics and the exegesis. When Dr. Candlish is exhibiting spiritual truths in common language, we read him with delight and often with admiration; and in the midst of this we are startled by some crude, barren speculations, frequently false philosophically, and of no interest to any one but a Scotch metaphysician. When will theologians learn the place of imagination in divinity?

The First Epistle of St. John Expounded in a Series of Lectures. By ROBERT S. CANDLISH, D.D. Second Edition. In two volumes. Dr. Candlish's rare spiritual insight appears in these volumes. He has in a large degree the highest qualification of an expositor, that without which all others are useless, "spiritual-mindedness," sympathy with Christ, deep and earnest piety. He has another qualification also, a very high one, keen and subtle insight into human character and conduct. These appear again and again in these expositions of the simplest-minded and most subjective of the apostles. The acquaintance with systematic theology, which Dr. Candlish brings with him to this epistle and for the sake of which he thinks his expositions may be of value, seems but a very doubtful advantage. Dr. Candlish sometimes "jibes" in his expositions, and when he does so, the reader is aware of the presence of some passages not easily reconcilable with the theology of the Westminster Confession. His treatment of the clause, "the propitiation for our sins, and not for ours only, but for the sins of the whole world," is a specimen of this. Perhaps a more signal instance—the sudden halting and impotent motion in the midst of a profoundly simple and searching exposition—is found in the third lecture, where he speaks of "the blood of Jesus Christ cleansing from all sin" those who "walk in the light."

The Statesman's Year Book for 1870. By FREDERICK MARTIN. Seventh annual publication. (Macmillan and Co.) The extreme usefulness of this manual is proved by the wide acceptance it was met with at the hands of those for whom it is intended. [A vast mass of information is brought from very distant points, judiciously boiled down, and carefully served up here so as to be easily accessible. Errors are, of course, incidental to such a work; but we observe several improvements have been made; and as it is the nature of such an undertaking, like a snowball, to grow bigger as it rolls, we can the better appreciate the difficulty of keeping it within moderate compass.]

Rural and City Life; or, the Fortunes of the Stubble Family. By OLD BOOMERANG. (Sampson Low and Co.) This is a story of Australian life very smartly told. It is just perhaps a little real; and now and then verges on coarseness; but this, which is a fault in art, may make the book more valuable in other directions. There is a rollicking humour, and a freedom in the treatment of character, which nevertheless does not often outrage truth; and now and then we have a touch of pathos, too. Biddy Flynn, the Irish domestic, is quite an eccentric, and Old Stubble is sometimes unconsciously dryly comical. The writer has decided skill in dialogue.

Addison's Essays from the "Spectator." (Tegg.) We do not generally admire the trick of making cheap editions by the easy process of dropping out portions of our standard writers; and then serving them up with only the very vaguest hint as to their incompleteness. It is all very well for an editor to stamp a whole class of characteristic works thus:—"The remaining omissions consist chiefly of the letter-box papers and a few other

"essays of a frivolous or temporary character"; but it is possible the most characteristic touches of the author may lie in works like these. However, this is a well-printed well-bound edition of the best known of Addison's essays, and should be welcomed by those who do not possess that great author's writings intact, or have no time or opportunity to get access to them.

The Toy Alphabet (published by Grant and Co., Turnmill-street), consists of a packet of cards with a picture on one side and a line describing it on the other. There are several sets, price one shilling each. One set describes various nations, another different kinds of birds, &c., each card representing on the pictorial side, and on the reverse or explanatory side also, a different letter of the alphabet. The idea is not a new one, but it is very fairly applied in this instance to useful branches of elementary knowledge.

MAGAZINES.

The Contemporary Review. April. (London: Strahan and Co.) The new editor of the *Contemporary* has given us a full and an interesting number. Professor Max Muller's "Chapter of Accidents in Comparative Theology" is a timely warning to scolists in Sanskrit. The article is amusing as well as important. We wish we could think Miss Smedley's paper on "The English Girl's Education" unneeded. It is a thoroughly sensible exposition of the services of those who are endeavouring to secure a better education for English women. The article on "Dr. Rowland Williams, and his place in contemporary religious thought," is highly eulogistic; it almost amounts indeed to hero-worship. Mr. Owen deserves hearty thanks for his delineation of the personal character of Dr. Williams and his estimate of his own position. The paper entitled, "Suggestions for a New Kind of Biography" is hardly worthy of a place in the magazine; biographical writing is not susceptible of the sort of classification Mr. Goodbrand lays down, and cannot be supplied to order. The critical articles also—one on "The Science of Morals," by Professor Calderwood, and another on "Mark Pattison's Edition of Pope's Essay on Man," are slight. Professor Rawlinson's paper is more than a mere criticism; it is a contribution to "Early Oriental History." Canon Westcott communicates an attractive dream—it can scarcely be other—of "A Form of Confraternity suited to the Present Work of the English Church." He would have a new order, in which, not individuals, but families, should unite, under a pledge of poverty as a protest against prevalent luxury; for purposes of united study and comparison of results by way of overcoming the tendency to excessive specialism in intellectual pursuits; and for cultivation of the religious life by means of stated and common devotional exercises. We presume the last paper in the Magazine to be by the Editor, as it is unsigned. It is on "The Churches of England: a propos of some recent Addresses at Sion College." It is characterised by candour, and evinces a respectful desire to apprehend the position of Dissenters. One or two of its suggestions are well worthy of being attended to by them. The writer notices the singular waste of resources and power in the plan of our Nonconformist Colleges. He speaks wisely of the unworthy conflict for social precedence between some Dissenting and some Established clergy. We can assure him that those Nonconformists who are most earnest in endeavouring to remove the last traces of "political inequality" because of religion, are not given to complain of social inequalities. Any Dissenters who may deem precedence or "the upper seats" worthy of striving for, will do well to accept the Christian rebuke here administered to them. The writer of this paper is a thorough believer in the "legal being the measure of the moral responsibility" in ecclesiastical matters, and hence he fails altogether to understand the position of Nonconformists, and misreads modern English ecclesiastical history. He cannot see why orthodox Nonconformists should have excluded themselves from the Universities by refusing to subscribe articles that were directed against Roman Catholics. His practical suggestions as to subscriptions are not clear. Although he acknowledges that many of the Articles are seriously at variance with the others, he would retain them because they represent an old victory over Rome, and he thinks that to mark out the old lines that have been conquered will prevent new encroachments of the Papacy. We state these points of the Essay; our readers will be able to estimate from them the general position of the writer. The identification of "the legal with the moral" responsibility is only another way of stating the boldest Erastianism; no adage seems to us fraught with more perilous consequences to national as well as to ecclesiastical life. Religious life will refuse the maxim.

We can quite understand that many magazine-readers will glance over the table of contents in *Fraser* without finding anything to attract their attention, and even that a better acquaintance with its pages will not do much to correct their original impression that it is dull and uninviting. To us, however, it is full of life and interest. The editor is evidently determined to raise it to a high level, and the present number conclusively shows the spirit in which he is prosecuting his work, and the success which he has been able to achieve. First in interest among various able articles is Max Muller's introductory essay on the science of religion. His

desire is to render to religion a service similar to that which he has already done in relation to language. The work which he has to do in thus applying the comparative method which has yielded such great results in other departments to the study of religion, is much more difficult than any he has yet undertaken. The opposition he will have to encounter will unquestionably be stronger, but even those to whom many of his conclusions will probably be startling, may nevertheless be interested in his learned and ingenious speculations. This is not the place to discuss any of his positions, even if this preliminary lecture had at all developed them, and it is almost superfluous to say that the lecture contains abundant matter to attract all thoughtful readers. Professor Thorold Rogers contributes an instructive paper in which he brings out those elementary truths on "Capital—Labour—Profit" necessary to be understood by all who would appreciate the merits of the controversies between employers and employed. A capital article on the "Cost of a Napoleon," under the well-known signatures of W. B. G., presents as strong a plea as could well be urged in defence of Louis Napoléon, although the writer confesses that his rule has cost Europe a million of lives and five hundred millions of money. Under the title, "Irish Politics and Irish Priests," we have a lively and able sketch of the different classes of whom the Irish priesthood is composed, and an estimate of the influence which they are exerting upon the politics of the country. The editor also gives us an Irish paper in a pleasant account of "A Fortnight in Kerry."

Blackwood is strong in political articles this month. A paper on "Blue Laws" is intended to warn us of the danger of trusting to the opinion of majorities. It commences with a picture of the faults of Puritan legislation in New England, and from it deduces an argument against the attempts of what it calls "the Blue law total" abstainers of our own country. At the same time, it endeavours to enlist the sympathies of the masses in favour of Conservatism in an article on "The State, the Poor, and the Country," in which it takes up and advocates the cry of State aid to the poor, especially in the way of emigration, reasoning its arguments with attacks on the Government and its policy of a type with which we are all sufficiently familiar. Mr. Cardwell's scheme of Army Reform receives the honour of a separate criticism, cohesed in the true Tory spirit. Cornelius O'Dowd contributes his quota in a series of characteristic attacks on the Irish policy of the Government. Happily these graver articles are pleasantly relieved by lighter and more attractive papers on the "Princesses des Ursines," and on "Chatterton," and by a brief but striking sketch of "Montalembert."

The *Cornhill* has not much this month which calls for special notice. It has instalments of its two serial stories, that of Charles Reade's fortunately approaching its close, and "Against Time" fully sustaining its interest. A shorter story "Two Ladies—Two Hours," is capably told. A paper on "The Uses of Fools" is original and suggestive, is marked by extreme acuteness, and throws unexpected light on particular phases of character. To great thinkers it may be rather humiliating as showing them much the world owes to those they most despise. Mr. Herman Merivale has some very fair verses, entitled, "At Rome." "Sounding the Gong" has some useful hints on true as distinguished from ostentatious hospitality. The "Barbarossa Legend," one of those extraordinary myths relative to the continued existence of heroes, of which the legendary lore of most countries furnishes an example, is the subject of an interesting article.

St. Pauls is conducted by an editor who evidently understands how to provide for the popular taste. The two stories by Mr. Trollope and Mrs. Oliphant are alone sufficient to attract a large body of readers, who, if they had nothing more, would feel that their money had been well laid out on tales so superior to the ordinary run of magazine stories. "The Editor's Tales" are also a thoroughly good series. That of "The Spotted Dog," of which we have the conclusion in the present number is very touching, and, alas! o'er true. Lovers of science will find an article on "The Colours of the Planets" extremely full of valuable information. "The Condition of Soldiers' Wives," and that of "Our Rural Labourers," are ably discussed in two papers written by men evidently well competent to treat of their respective subjects.

The *Gentleman's Magazine* is bringing Victor Hugo's tale to a conclusion, and few of our readers will be sorry of the intimation, "To be concluded in our next." It has not fulfilled the expectations that were formed of it. The author has often laid himself open to severe criticism, and it is even as it appears in the magazine, too long; but, with all these defects, it has marks of great genius. A paper entitled "A Wonderful Building," contains a very amusing account of a visit to a cathedral made of bottle-corks, the maker of which must have displayed no little ingenuity. The sketch, "James Boswell," is fairly done. Whether after Macaulay's portrait it required to be done at all, is another question. Certainly any new one recalls that masterpiece to its own disadvantage.

Cassell's Magazine, among a variety of good papers, gives us one on the "Rev. H. W. Beecher and Mrs. Stowe," by an American, which, though it does not add much to our knowledge, is in the main fair to the distinguished pair. We do not agree, however, in the

writer's idea of Mrs. Stowe's conduct as to the "True Story." Garibaldi's letter to his English is brief, but its autobiographic recollections are full of interest. The *Magazine* and *Quiver* continue to be conducted with all their accustomed spirit.

THE SINKING OF THE ONEIDA.

The *Overland China Mail* publishes the decision of the court of inquiry held at Yokohama respecting the collision between the Bombay and the Oneida. The court held that the questions it had to decide were—First: Was the injury sustained by the Bombay brought about by the fault of her commander, Mr. Eyre? Second: After the collision between the Bombay and the Oneida had taken place, what was the conduct of the master of the former vessel? With respect to the first question, the court came to the conclusion that the collision was not attributable to any default on the part of the commander of the Bombay. As regards the second question—the conduct of Mr. Eyre after the collision had taken place—the court observed:—

That the effect of this collision on the Bombay was comparatively slight. That guns were fired from the Oneida as signals of distress from ten to fifteen minutes after the collision took place. That the reports of these guns was not heard nor were the flashes seen on board the Bombay. That after the collision the fact of the Bombay having been hailed from the Oneida was reported to Mr. Eyre. That Mr. Eyre only knew that some of the upper works of the Oneida had been carried away, and was unaware of the amount of injury sustained by the Oneida. That the Bombay was a mail-steamer, carrying passengers and cargo, and built in compartments, only one of which was reported to him as making water fast. That the whole extent of injury sustained by the Bombay was not ascertained till the day following the collision. That immediately after the collision it was not considered to be serious; for had it been so, it is natural to suppose that the knowledge of the pilot would have been availed of, and the Bombay run on to the Saratoga spit. That, in our opinion, no danger to his vessel, passengers, and cargo was apprehended by Mr. Eyre. That from the questions he asked the pilot he evidently thought that the Oneida might possibly have sustained serious injury. That he waited at the most five minutes after the collision, to see if signals of distress were made from the Oneida. That after his ship again proceeded he gave no orders that a look-out should be kept in the direction of the Oneida. That had he, or any one else, been keeping a proper look-out, the flash of the Oneida's guns must have been seen, though their report might not have been heard. Under all these circumstances it becomes our duty to pronounce, whether, in our opinion, he was justified in proceeding on his voyage without waiting to ascertain whether the Oneida was in need of assistance. We recognise the fact that Mr. Eyre was placed in a position of great difficulty and doubt, and in circumstances under which he was called upon to decide promptly; but we regret to have to record it as our opinion that he acted hastily and ill-advisedly in that, instead of waiting and endeavouring to render assistance to the Oneida, he, without having reason to believe that his own vessel was in a perilous condition, proceeded on his voyage. This conduct constitutes, in our opinion, a breach of the 33rd Section of the 63rd Chapter of the Merchant Shipping Act Amendment Act of 1862, and we therefore feel called upon to suspend Mr. Eyre's certificate for six calendar months from this date.

The American correspondent of the *Times* telegraphs the substance of a report by the Secretary of the Navy to the House of Representatives relative to the loss of the Oneida. The Secretary says, from an examination of the testimony before the court of inquiry, it appears that the disaster occurred through the bad navigation of the Bombay. But (it is added) whatever doubt might exist as to the responsibility for the collision, there could hardly be a question as to the conduct of the captain of the Bombay after the collision, who is said to have shown reckless disregard for human life and of the common obligations of humanity. The House has ordered the Secretary of the Navy to institute an official inquiry on the subject. The Senate has concurred. The President will approve the resolution, and the inquiry begins immediately.

Crimes and Casualties.

Mrs. Elizabeth Grindley, of Maghall, near Liverpool, has poisoned herself through excessive grief at the death of her husband, who died the previous day.

Two burglars were drowned in the River Rye, near Malton, on Wednesday afternoon, while endeavouring to escape from the pursuit of a constable.

Patrick Jennings, who was convicted at the last Stafford assizes of the murder of his wife at Moseley Hole, near Wolverhampton, and whose execution was fixed for Monday, has been respited by the Home Secretary.

A daring attempt was made early on Friday morning to steal necklaces and other jewellery, valued at 6,000*l.*, from the shop of Mr. Attenborough, pawnbroker and jeweller, corner of Chancery-lane. The burglars drilled a hole in the iron shutters, but could not reach the jewellery. No arrests made.

At Clerkenwell Police-court, on Friday, a man named Sladen, overlooker at a cotton factory at Motterham, Cheshire, was charged as a dangerous lunatic at large, he having threatened to murder the Queen. He had become excited after hearing one of Bradlaugh's lectures in the East-end of London. He was ordered to be detained till his friends were communicated with.

A well-known impostor, who gave the name of Mary Malcolm, was convicted at the Southwark Police-court, on Friday, of having sent her two chil-

dren from house to house with a begging letter. She had previously been punished for a similar offence, and was now sentenced to three months' imprisonment with hard labour.

Lawrence and Margaret Shiels, brother and sister, have been convicted at Tullamore, in Ireland, of the murder of Patrick Dunn, and sentenced to death. The execution is respited till the 27th of May, to give time for having a point reserved, as to receiving the dying man's confession in evidence, argued before the Court of Criminal Appeal.

Very revolting proceedings have been taken by the inhabitants of White Waltham, Berks, with regard to a house they supposed was about to be occupied by small-pox patients. A band of from forty to fifty men, with blackened faces, and armed with axes, crowbars, and stones, broke open the front door, and forthwith demolished the place.

The Spanish bullfighters charged with cruelty to bullocks at the Agricultural Hall, at Islington, were again examined at Clerkenwell Police-court on Thursday. They promised to leave the country and not to repeat the performances here, and they were fined 20*s.* each. A summons was subsequently granted against Mr. Holland, of the Canterbury Music Hall, who, it is said, originally introduced the bullfight at the Agricultural Hall.

The Glasgow police have found a barrel containing thirty-six revolvers and fourteen packages of cartridges in the house of a man named Macnamara, in that city. His wife stated that a strange man had brought the barrel to the house, and Macnamara himself denies all knowledge of the matter. The street in which the arms were found is one of the lowest in Glasgow, and is largely inhabited by Irish families.

Miscellaneous.

THE MISSING STEAMER.—There is still an entire absence of news of the City of Boston. The rumour that a dismasted steamer had been sighted off the west coast of Ireland has not been confirmed.

THE WICKLOW PEERAGE CASE.—The House of Lords sitting as a Committee of Privileges has given judgment in the great Wicklow peerage case. Their Lordships were unanimous in deciding that Mrs. Howard had failed to make out a case in favour of her alleged son, and some strong observations were made upon the nature of Mrs. Howard's claim. The judgment was that Charles Francis Arnold Howard had made good his claim to the earldom, and it was determined so to report to the House.

NEWARK ELECTION.—Mr. Bristowe, Q.C. (Liberal) was on Monday returned for Newark by a majority of 175 over Serjeant Sleigh (Conservative), the numbers having been 826 and 651 respectively. Sir George Grey, after having polled 51 votes, retired at eleven o'clock. There are about 1,850 voters on the register. Newark is the borough which first sent Mr. Gladstone to Parliament at the general election which succeeded the passing of the Reform Act of 1832.

CONSERVATIVE EVICTIONS IN BRECONSHIRE.—We are informed, says the *Cambria Daily Leader*, upon undoubted authority, that all those holding land under Lord Tredegar who voted for Mr. Hugh Powell Price or Lord Hyde at the last two elections for the borough of Brecon, received on Friday notice to give up their holdings. Apart from other considerations, this step is considered bad policy, and already the intention has been expressed of opposing the return of Major Morgan for the county whenever the opportunity occurs.

THE IRISH NATIONAL PRESS AND THE COERCION BILL.—The Irish national papers of last Saturday are more moderate. The *Irishman* says each successive coercion bill indicates a national step in advance. It rejoices that the Ministry have thrown off their hypocrisy. The act will not crush the love of liberty in Ireland. The *Nation* points to the division on convents as the first fruits of the coercion policy; and says that every bigot in Great Britain looks upon Ireland as a victim tied to the triangle or the stake—their strokes may fall, her limbs may quiver, but they imagine her only answer must be a convulsive sob. The engravings in the *Weekly News* and *Flag of Ireland* are both aimed at the O'Donoghue.

PARLIAMENTARY DIVISIONS.—In the division which took place on Mr. Newdegate's motion for an inquiry into the increase of conventual and monastic institutions in Great Britain, 38 Liberals voted with the Opposition. The Government received the support of three Conservatives—Mr. Cavendish Bentinck, Mr. Liddell, and Colonel Vandeleur. In the division on Mr. Disraeli's amendment to the Irish Land Bill on Monday, the following Liberals voted against the Government:—Messrs. R. S. Aytoun, Viscount Burke, W. Egerton, C. W. Fitzwilliam, H. Fitzwilliam, Sir A. C. Maitland, Sir J. G. Sinclair, and Mr. Whalley. The following Conservatives voted with the Government:—Mr. Butler Johnstone, and Mr. W. Johnston. It is said that the minority was twenty votes less than the Tory whips had calculated upon.

ORGANISED CHARITY AND THE SUPPRESSION OF MENDICITY.—The first annual meeting of the Society for Organising Charitable Relief and Repressing Mendicancy was held on Wednesday afternoon at Willis's Rooms; the Earl of Derby in the chair. The noble earl alluded to the rapid increase of pauperism, which he believed was largely attributable to the indiscriminate manner in which the poor were relieved by the various charitable societies acting indepen-

dently of each other. A plan of organisation, shadowed forth in the society's report, was approved of, and a very decided opinion was expressed by the meeting that no satisfactory remedies for the evils of an increasing pauperism can be devised until the co-operation of the various charitable agencies in the metropolis has been attained. The Bishop of Winchester, Sir C. Trevelyan, Lord Lichfield, and Canon Gregory were amongst the speakers.

A STRANGE COMPLICATION.—The execution of the convict Rutterford, now under sentence of death for the murder of a gamekeeper named Hight on Maharajah Duleep Singh's estate at Eriswell, is fixed to take place at Bury St. Edmund's Gaol next Monday week. Doubts are entertained, however, as to the possibility of strangling him, on account of a malformation of his neck. He was severely burnt when young, and his chin is connected with his neck by a band of flesh in a straight line. Dr. Macnab, the surgeon to the gaol, fears that any attempt at hanging him would be attended by prolonged suffering, and might cause an unpleasant scene at the execution. Representation has been made to the Home Secretary to this effect, but no reply has yet been received. Rutterford has made no confession of guilt, but does not deny it. He reads the Bible attentively, having been taught to read since his incarceration, and appears perfectly resigned to his fate.

THE NEXT INTERNATIONAL EXHIBITION.—On Monday the Prince of Wales presided at a committee appointed by the Society of Arts to organise the educational divisions of the proposed annual International Exhibitions commencing next year. His Royal Highness, who expressed his sense of the great importance which attaches to the education question, briefly explained the object sought to be attained by the committee over which he presided, which was that of obtaining the best possible representation of the various materials and apparatus used in teaching, and of exhibiting the results of the systems of instruction practised in different countries. The Prince expressed a sanguine hope that the labours of the committee would lead to an improvement in the quality of primary education, and to the extension of that secondary instruction in science and art which is so much needed for the advancement of our industrial progress. The Exhibition is to be held in the covered ways on each side of the Horticultural Gardens.

THE EMIGRATION MOVEMENT.—The Emigration Commissioners are making arrangements for the selection of the emigrants who are to proceed this spring in the Government troopships to Canada. They will consist of men discharged from the Dockyards and War Office establishment. At a meeting of the British and Colonial Emigration Society on Friday some interesting information was supplied respecting the prospects of settlement in Canada, and upon this many cheering statistics were given. It was stated that the committee had made arrangements for assisting the emigration of a large number of unemployed workmen and their families. 2,000 emigrants are to leave the Thames on the 14th for Quebec. About 250 passengers left Queenstown on Wednesday for America, in the Cunard steamer *Marathon*, and over fifty persons were left behind for want of accommodation in that steamer. Nearly 1,000 people have also taken passages by steamers that leave this week.

THE LATE MR. JOSEPH PAYNE.—The remains of this benevolent man, for many years deputy assistant-judge at the Middlesex Sessions, were consigned to their last resting place on Saturday, in a vault in Highgate Cemetery. The funeral was attended by more than 2,000 persons, and was altogether a very imposing and touching ceremony. The mourners were Mr. Serjeant Payne, brother of the deceased, Mr. W. J. Payne, barrister-at-law, his nephew, the Earl of Shaftesbury, K.G., Sir William Bodkin, Mr. Peter Bodkin, Mr. Miles, Mr. Marshall, Mr. Serjeant Cox, and Mr. Pownall, chairman of the Middlesex magistrates. Mr. Justice Lush and other private friends sent their carriages as a mark of respect. But the most gratifying portion of the proceedings was the attendance of deputations from various societies to whom he had rendered service, and numerous troops of young children who sang hymns at the close of the service. Two large wreaths of flowers were placed upon the coffin by Lady Bodkin and Miss Bodkin, and the children assembled round the vault strewed violets upon it.

THE BRIBERY PROSECUTIONS.—One of the defendants in the Norwich bribery prosecutions, a man named Banfather, was on Friday acquitted. Another defendant, a Mr. Hulme, was found guilty, but a legal point raised by his counsel is reserved for future argument. The case of Mr. Edward Stracey, son of the unseated Conservative candidate, was then proceeded with. In opening the case, the Attorney-General stated that on the election day Mr. Stracey borrowed two hundred pounds of Mr. Webster, the landlord of the Maid's Head inn, for corrupt purposes. The money was distributed amongst various sub-bribery-agents late in the afternoon of the election. Some of the money was retained by those agents, but a sufficient amount was distributed to materially influence the contest. Mr. Staveley Hill, Q.C., who appeared for Mr. Stracey, contended that the defendant had no intention of bribery, and that he was quite ignorant of the manner in which the money was spent. A verdict of not guilty was returned. Robert Hardiment, who was convicted on Thursday of bribing at the general election, was tried on Saturday for committing a like offence at the Norwich municipal

election in November last year, and was found guilty, but sentence was deferred. On Monday the trial of Mr. Joseph Stanley, a solicitor, for conspiring with other persons to bribe the voters at the Norwich municipal election in November last, was resumed. The evidence given for the prosecution was contradicted by the witnesses called on behalf of the defendant, and the jury were unable at first to come to an agreement. They were locked up, and ultimately a verdict of acquittal was returned.

MUNIFICENCE OF SIR FRANCIS CROSSLEY, M.P.—Sir Francis proposes to give 10,000*l.* for the erection of a new infirmary for Halifax, the present infirmary to be converted into a convalescent home, or its value appropriated for the erection of a new convalescent home. The board, in accepting the offer, desired the chairman to convey personally to Sir Francis their gratitude for his extreme liberality, and a special meeting of the board is to be held, to consider the other matters mentioned in Sir F. Crossley's letter. The Mayor of Halifax has also received a communication from the worthy baronet, intimating his desire to create a trust to be administered by the Halifax Town Council. For the purpose of this trust he will give 10,000*l.* It will form a loan fund for advances to persons of good character, and resident two years in the borough, without security, and at the interest of 2½ per cent. Borrowers must possess property equal to the amount they borrow; and men will be enabled to obtain not less than 30*l.*, nor more than 300*l.*, and women (spinsters or widows) not less than 10*l.*, nor more than 100*l.* The trust is to be distributed by eleven trustees, of whom the Mayor is *ex-officio* one, six are to be appointed by the Corporation from their body, and four by Sir Francis or his executors. The Council are to meet and consider whether they will accept the trust. Mr. John Crossley has also offered to the authorities of the Halifax Infirmary to defray the entire cost of the sojourn of twenty convalescent patients a year at Southport, Buxton, or other places recommended by the medical staff. It is further announced that Sir Francis has given 20,000*l.* to the London Missionary Society and 10,000*l.* to the Pastors' Retiring Fund. The hon. baronet, who has returned home in improved health, will, in all probability, resume his attendance at the House of Commons after Easter.

QUEEN'S DRAWING ROOM.—A correspondent says that among the *débutantes* there were an unusual number of pretty faces, as also among the brides, many of whose husbands were present. Great anxiety was exhibited to be presented to the Queen herself. The drawing-room was not a large one, and the day was miserable. The dresses generally were exceedingly pretty, there being a great preponderance of pink and reds in the toilettes. A very magnificent costume was a cherry-coloured satin train and body, richly embroidered in gold, worn over a white tulle petticoat, covered with blonde, and threaded with gold. A gold band went round the head, above which peeped a small plume at one side, and a long gold-bespangled veil fell over the shoulders. For a good effect, the tulle veils, which now replace the lappets, can scarcely be made too full; the fuller they are, the more gracefully they fall over the back of the hair. A good many worn at the drawing-room were undivided. Bright green, a blue exactly the shade of a turquoise, and a pink as delicate, called the Du Barry pink, were very general. There was a greater show than ever of old Venetian point; this on the new pink shade of corded silk, caught up with bunches of white flowers, with long drooping grass, was a toilette that was very much admired. Many people wore a good deal of grass hanging over the chignon at the back. There is a new plan of trimming the trains, which, by-the-bye, are longer than ever. They are made to resemble a double train; that is, they are trimmed to about the length a dress would be, and have an additional trimming, quite distinct, below this. The upper part of these trimmings, in one or two instances, was one mass of lace, quite covering the upper part of the train. A grey satin was trimmed with black lace, as follows: the lace was laid on the edges of the train, and crossed it at about the length of a dress in a square form, headed by a ruche of red satin. Very large red satin bows came below this at both edges, and then the lace began again, along both sides and round the bottom of the train. The lace was evidently flounces, and was far wider than is generally used for trains, and it struck me that this mode of trimming suggested a good way of utilising lace flounces. The trains worn by the matrons were altogether more trimmed than of yore; the garnitures were often carried down the centre, sometimes in the form of bunches of flowers—a very senseless arrangement, as they are sure to be crushed.—*John Bull.*

Gleanings.

The Columbia Fish Market seems to be answering well.

There are about 100 members of the Bar now in the House.

Since the 4th of November, 1869, the Bank of England rate of discount has been 3 per cent.

There are 146 religious denominations in Great Britain, the names of which have been given to the Registrar-General of Births, Deaths, and Marriages.

A return just issued shows that there were in 1869 10,345 convictions for offences against the game laws in England and Wales.

The University Boat Race is fixed for this afternoon, and great preparations have been made for it. The contest is expected to be severe.

It has been decided that Billingsgate and Leadenhall Market are not to be disestablished, but to be improved and enlarged.

Silver mines of "unparalleled richness" and "almost inexhaustible," are reported to have been discovered in Grayson county, Ky.

The Italy, said to be the largest merchant screw-steamer in the world—the Great Eastern excepted—was launched at Glasgow on Saturday.

"Round the world in ninety days, 250*l.*, first class," is the subject of a project which, it is said, a railway company in New England is at present organising.

Philadelphia has a novel will case. It appears that a man and his wife each made a will in favour of the other at the same time, but by some blunder the man signed his wife's will, and the wife signed her husband's. Not until after the death of the husband was the mistake discovered.

HOW TO MAKE TEA.—Tea cannot be properly made from water that has been boiling long. Cold water should be put in the kettle, and added to the tea at the moment of ebullition, and not a second after. It might also be pointed out that the practice of measuring tea in spoons is a mistaken one, as the strength of the infusion depends on the weight; and a few larger or smaller leaves make a wonderful difference in the quantity contained in a teaspoon, and consequently in the strength of the infusion.—*Produce Markets Review.*

NEW PLAN OF LOCOMOTION.—According to the *Builder*, there is every prospect of our shortly being conveyed from one place to another in a novel and pleasing fashion. A new arrangement for railways, it is stated, will shortly come before the public under the title of the Pannier system. A single row of piles carries a continuous girder on which the train runs, the carriages hanging down on each side to within a short distance of the ground. The carriages are so arranged that inequality of weight on one side to the extent of a ton will not affect the action. The small quantity of land required, cheapness of construction, and speed, are advantages claimed for it.

READING AT MEALS.—The *Journal des Connaissances Médicales* says that there are still certain convents and similar communities where reading aloud during meals is a daily practice. This is objectionable on the ground of health. No one can both eat and pay serious attention to what may be read to him. If he chews his food well, his mind wanders from the subject expounded, in order to concentrate itself especially on this first act of digestion; if, on the contrary, he listens attentively to the reading, he bolts his food, and it goes down to the stomach insufficiently impregnated with saliva, and this is a frequent cause of dyspepsia.

THE SUN.—The enormous size of the present sunspot—16,000,000 square miles—is (says the *Globe*) naturally reviving speculations as to the nature of such phenomena. Are we to say with Maupertius that they are masses of the floating scum of the incandescent fluid; or, with Lalande, that they stand out from the solar surface, having emanated from the interior, like our rock islands from the sea; or, again, with Professor Alexander Wilson, of Glasgow, that they are cavities in the elastic solar atmosphere? We have a fourth theory to fall back upon, according to which sun-spots are meteoric stones, as they appear during one or two revolutions before absorption into the "all-devouring orb," having become entangled in their perihelion passage in the solar atmosphere, and being "licked up" by the central attraction out of their elliptical paths. But according to this last hypothesis we ought to be, if anything, warmer than usual, instead of shivering, on the 1st of April. In regard to the sun's absorbing power, a writer in the *Edinburgh Review* remarks that it is absolutely certain that all planetary matter is inevitably gravitating towards the sun, which will be the common bourne of our system. "As surely," writes Sir William Thompson, "as the weights of a clock run down to their lowest position, from which they can never rise again unless fresh energy is communicated to them from a source not yet exhausted, so surely must planet after planet creep in, age by age, towards the sun; not one can escape its fiery end. As it has been proved by geology that our earth had a fiery beginning, so it is shown by the law of gravitation that it will have a fiery end."

SOMETHING LIKE A SEA SERPENT.—Of all the disagreeable sea serpents that have appeared to ancient or modern mariners not one can compare for general repulsiveness with that which on the 12th ult. was seen by Captain Slocum and the crew of the schooner *Saladin* on her voyage from Jacmel, Hayti, with a cargo of copper, to New York. According to the account given in the *New York Herald*, on the morning of that day the captain saw what he thought was a wreck, on the starboard beam about five miles distant, bearing east-north-east. On nearing the object it was discovered to be an enormous fish, larger than a ship. At 7.30 a.m. the schooner hove-to with the monster twenty feet distant on her starboard quarter. It is described as being 100 feet in length, its body measuring forty and its tail sixty feet. The most curious feature about it was an immense body of hard gristly matter, twelve feet in height, forty feet in width, with the same length, entirely void within, forming a large bladder-shaped balloon, which, filled with air, buoyed the serpent on the water. This oval buoy had regular ridges,

running from the apex or head (for this bladder preceded the body of the fish) to where it joined the main body. These ridges extend fore and aft at intervals of four inches, with a regular height of two inches, and gave to the surface the appearance of the network of a balloon. The bladder portion was elastic, and yielded to the movements of the sea; it was two inches thick, but of a hard, dense, impenetrable character, and would resist knife or bullet. On each side of this floating dome were two heavy paddles, each five feet long, by which the monster made progress. The fish proper, which was but an appendage tailed on to this blown-up bladder, consisted of a heavy fishy substance, with brown sides; and about ten feet from the dome were two eyes, one on either side of a large horn. From this point the fish tapered on to a forked tail of material as heavy and hard as iron. Captain Slocum declares that the tail would weigh 100 lb. to the cubic foot, and the forks of the tail stood horizontally in the water, but submerged four feet, the rest of the monster "sitting lightly on the ocean wave." He feared to fire at her or disturb her in any way, as one movement on her part would have sunk the Saladin. He believes that she has some internal engine by which she fills her balloon with air and discharges it at pleasure, then sinking out of sight. Her touch is poison and her contact dangerous. How this latter point was discovered is not stated, but quite enough is told to prove that a most dangerous monster has been seen for the first, and everybody must hope for the last, time.—*Pall Mall Gazette*.

NOTICE.—All announcements intended for this column must be accompanied by a remittance of half-a-crown in postage-stamps.

Births, Marriages, and Deaths.

DEATH.

FURNER.—March 25, at Lymington, Hants, Mr. James Furner, aged seventy-one.

BANK OF ENGLAND.

(From Wednesday's Gazette.)

An Account, pursuant to the Act 7th and 8th Victoria, cap. 32, for the week ending Wednesday, March 30.

ISSUE DEPARTMENT.

Notes issued	£34,896,705	Government Debt	£11,015,100
		Other Securities ..	3,984,000
		Gold Coin & Bullion	19,896,705
	£34,896,705		£34,896,705

BANKING DEPARTMENT.

Proprietors' Capital	£14,553,000	Government Securities (Inc. dead weight annuity)	£12,832,460
Reserve	3,678,454	Other Securities ..	21,104,347
Public Deposits ..	11,293,341	Notes	12,142,945
Other Deposits ..	17,163,332	Gold & Silver Coin	989,456
Seven Day and other Bills	362,081		
	£47,049,208		£47,049,208

March 31, 1870. GEO. FORBES, Chief Cashier.

HOLLOWAY'S PILLS.—Good Spirits.—Everyone has frequently experienced sudden personal changes from gaiety to gloom. The weather oftentimes receives the blame, when a faulty digestion is alone the cause of the depression. Holloway's Pills can be honestly recommended for regulating a disordered stomach and improving digestion. They entirely remove the sense of fulness and oppression after eating. They clear the furred tongue, and act as wholesome stimulant to the liver, and as gentle aperients to the bowels. They healthfully rouse both body and mind. Holloway's Pills are the best known antidotes for want of appetite, nausea, flatulency, heartburn, languor, depression, and that apathy so characteristic of chronic derangement of the digestion.

Markets.

CORN EXCHANGE, LONDON, Monday, April 4.

We had a moderate supply of English wheat this morning, and from abroad only moderate arrivals have come to hand. The flour trade was inactive, and prices were barely supported. Peas, beans, and barley were steady, at former prices. Barley was the turn dealer. Indian corn was the turn lower to sell. Of oats rather larger arrivals have come to hand, and for Swedish qualities, ex ship, sellers had to take rather less money. At the ports of call few cargoes remain unsold. Quotations remain the same as last week.

CURRENT PRICES.

WHEAT—		PEAS—		RYE		OATS—	
Per Qr.	Per Qr.	Per Qr.	Per Qr.	Per Qr.	Per Qr.	Per Qr.	Per Qr.
Essex and Kent, red, old ..	44 to 45	Grey	31 to 33	English feed ..	18 to 20	English feed ..	18 to 20
Ditto new ..	37 to 38	Maple	33 to 35	Scotch feed ..	23 to 24	Scotch feed ..	23 to 24
White, old ..	45 to 46	White	33 to 35	Irish black ..	16 to 18	Irish black ..	16 to 18
White, new ..	39 to 40	Boilers	33 to 35	White	16 to 18	White	16 to 18
Foreign red ..	39 to 40	Foreign, boilers ..	33 to 35	Foreign feed ..	16 to 18	Foreign feed ..	16 to 18
White	42 to 44						
BARLEY—							
English malting ..	26 to 30						
Chevalier	24 to 40						
Distilling	30 to 34						
Foreign	29 to 32						
MALT—							
Pale	— to —						
Chevalier	— to —						
Brown	48 to 54						
BEANS—							
Ticks	34 to 35						
Harrow	36 to 38						
Small	— to —						
Egyptian	34 to 37						

BREAD, Saturday, April 2.—The prices in the Metropolis are, for wheaten bread, per 4lbs. loaf, 6d. to 7d.; Household bread, 5d. to 6d.

METROPOLITAN CATTLE MARKET, Monday, April 4.—The total imports of foreign stock into London last week amounted to 8,111 head. In the corresponding week in 1869 we received 11,929; in 1868, 8,994; in 1867, 8,245; and in 1866, 4,957 head. The cattle trade did not vary to-day in any important particular from Monday last. Butchers, favoured by the cold weather, made considerable purchases through the dead-meat market, but the price of prime live-stock has been well maintained. As regards beasts, the receipts from our own grazing districts were on a moderate scale. The quality of

the Scotch beasts on sale to-day has been satisfactory, and Norfolk also has been fairly represented. From Norfolk, Suffolk, Essex, and Cambridgeshire we received about 1,450 Scotch and crosses; from other parts of England about 450 various breeds; from Scotland, 185 Scotch and crosses; and about 120 head from Ireland. As regards sheep, the supply has been good, the greater proportion of which was shorn, but prime qualities have continued comparatively scarce. The demand has been more active, and prices have ruled firm. Choice Southdown wethers have realised 5s. 8d. to 5s. 10d. in the wool, and 4s. 10d. to 5s., shorn. [The quotations annexed refer to sheep in the wool.] Woolled sheep were rather difficult to dispose of, and were generally the turn in favour of buyers. The lamb trade was dull, at prices varying from 7s. 6d. to 8s. per 8lbs. The calf trade was depressed, except for choice small animals. Pigs were unaltered in value.

Per 8lbs. to sink the Offal.

a. d. s. d.		a. d. s. d.	
Inf. coarse beasts	2 to 3 8	Prime Southdown	5 6 to 5 10
Second quality	4 0 to 4 6	Lambs	7 6 to 8 0
Prime large oxen	4 8 to 4 10	Egs. coarse calves	3 10 to 4 10
Prime So. ta. &c.	4 10 to 5 0	Prime small	5 0 to 5 8
Coarse inf. sheep	3 0 to 3 8	Large hogs	4 6 to 5 4
Second quality	3 10 to 4 0	Neatam. porkers	5 6 to 5 8
Pr. coarse wooled	5 0 to 5 4		

Suckling calves, 22s. to 26s., and quarter-old store pigs, 20s. to 26s. each.

METROPOLITAN MEAT MARKET, Monday, April 4.—The market has been moderately supplied with meat. The trade has been quiet at our quotations. The import into London last week consisted of 599 packages 12 qrs. from Hamburg, 11 packages from Harlingen, 3 packages from Rotterdam, and 10 cases from Antwerp.

Per 8lbs. by the carcase.

a. d. s. d.		a. d. s. d.	
Inferior beef	3 0 to 3 8	Middling ditto	5 10 to 6 2
Middling ditto	3 6 to 3 8	Prime ditto	4 6 to 4 10
Prime large do.	4 0 to 4 4	Veal	4 8 to 5 0
Do. small do.	4 2 to 4 6	Small pork	4 8 to 5 6
Large Pork	4 0 to 4 4	Lambs	6 8 to 7 4
Inf. mutton	3 4 to 3 8		

PROVISIONS, Monday, April 4.—The arrivals last week from Ireland were 155 firkins butter, and 3,091 bales bacon, and from foreign ports 18,046 packages butter, 1,642 bales and 100 boxes bacon. The continuance of cold easterly winds caused more business in butter, and Dutch advanced to 120s. to 122s. There was an improved demand for Irish bacon, and at the close of the week there was good business transacted in best Waterford at 73s. on board for sizeable meat; early in the week sales of Hamburg meat were pressed at 2s. decline, say 65s. landed, at the decline. There was a large business and the market closed firm.

COVENTGARDEN, Saturday, April 2.—Supply and demand are about balanced, and we have little to report beyond ordinary transactions. Foreign produce comes to hand in excellent order, the cool weather suiting its transit. St. Michael oranges are falling off in quality, but the season for them is now far advanced. An importation of pines from Africa is to hand this week, but they are worthless things. Flowers are plentiful and good, comprising azaleas, fairy roses, hyacinths, cyclamens, tulips, French and scarlet pelargoniums, heaths, etc.

BOROUGH HOP MARKET, Monday, April 4.—Our market remains very dull, every description of hops continuing difficult of sale. The improved inquiry noticed last week as existing for the choicest new Americans has not been productive, so far, of any increase of business, buyers still refraining from operating, while arrivals from abroad continue so heavy. Yearlings of all kinds are unsaleable. Imports for the week ending 2nd April 1,104 bales, against 534 bales the previous week. The Continental markets show no change worthy of notice, trade being everywhere dull. New York advices to the 22nd ult. report no new feature in the market, which remains very quiet. Mid and East Kent, 7l. 0s., 9l. 5s., to 12l. 12s.; Wealds, 6l. 0s., 7l. 0s., to 8l. 0s.; Sussex, 6l. 12s., 6l. 6s., to 6l. 13s.; Bavarians, 6l. 0s., 7l. 7s., to 9l. 0s.; French, 5l. 0s., 5l. 15s., to 6l. 10s.; Americans, 4l. 5s., 5l. 5s., to 6l. 0s.; Yearlings, 1l. 10s., 2l. 10s., to 3l. 15s. The import of foreign hops into London last week consisted of 4 bales from Amsterdam, 20 Antwerp, 10 Hamburg, 42 Rotterdam, and 326 bales from New York.

POTATOES.—BOROUGH AND SPITALFIELDS.—Monday, April 4.—These markets have been moderately supplied with potatoes, nevertheless the trade has been quiet at our quotations. The import into London last week consisted of 1 bag from Amsterdam, 1,614 Antwerp, 24 Dunkirk, 22 Rotterdam, and 50 tons from Gravesend. English Shaws, 120s. to 130s. per ton; English Regents, 100s. to 120s. per ton; Scotch Regents, 90s. to 110s. per ton; Scotch rocks, 75s. to 90s. per ton.

SEED, Monday, April 4.—English cloverseed still comes forward in very small parcels. The demand was good, and prices of fine qualities higher. Foreign red seed sold steadily at rather enhanced rates. White cloverseed remains scarce, and was held for very high prices. English trefoil realised rather more money, and all useful foreign qualities were quite as dear. White mustardseed brought fully as much money, with a fair demand. Canaryseed realised previous rates readily. Grass seeds generally were in request at full rates. Foreign tares were taken off freely at slightly over last week's currencies.

WOOL, Monday, April 4.—The tone of the market for English wool has continued healthy, and prices have been well maintained, but business, at the same time, has been extensive. The new clip is coming forward.

OIL, Monday, April 4.—Lined oil has been firm, at late rates. For rape there has been a fair inquiry, at full quotations; but other sorts have been flat.

TALLOW, Monday, April 4.—The trade has been dull. Y.O., spot, 44s. 9d. per cwt. Town Tallow 42s. 6d. net cash.

COAL, Monday, April 4.—Owing to the limited supply, factors realised an advance on last day's rates. Original Hartlepool, 19s. 6d.; Holywell Main, 15s. 9d.; Hartley's 15s. Ships fresh arrived, 14; ships at sea, 120.

Advertisements.

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BRACELETS, STRAP, 18-CARAT	£5 0
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BRACELETS, NINEVEH, "	£10 0
BRACELETS, SAXON, "	£15 0
BROOCHES, ETRUSCAN, "	£2 10
BROOCHES, NINEVEH, "	£3 0
BROOCHES, SAXON, "	£4 0
BROOCHES, EGYPTIAN, "	£5 0
CHAINS, PRINCESS, "	£2 0
CHAINS, CYLINDER, "	£3 0
CHAINS, CURB, "	£4 0
CHAINS, CABLE, "	£5 0
EARRINGS, ETRUSCAN, "	£1 10
EARRINGS, SAXON, "	£2 5
EARRINGS, EGYPTIAN, "	£3 5
EARRINGS, NINEVEH, "	£4 10
LOCKETS, ENGRAVED, "	£1 0
LOCKETS, CORDED, "	£2 10
LOCKETS, CROSS, "	£4 0
GOLD WATCHES, LADIES',	£8 8
GOLD WATCHES, "	£10 10
GOLD WATCHES, 1/2-PLATE,	£15 15
GOLD WATCHES (HUNTING),	£11 11
GOLD WATCHES, 1/2-PLATE,	£16 16
GOLD WATCHES, "	£20 0
GOLD WATCHES, KEYLESS	£15 10
GOLD WATCHES, "	£22 0
GOLD WATCHES (HUNTING),	£18 18
CLOCKS, CARRIAGE,	£5 0
CLOCKS, " (STRIKING),	£7 7
CLOCKS, " (ON GONG),	£12 12
CLOCKS, LIBRARY (MARBLE),	£4 0
CLOCKS, " "	£10 12
CLOCKS, " "	£14 0
CLOCKS, " (ORMOLU),	£10 0
CLOCKS, " "	£15 0

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SPECIAL NOTICE.

The Ninth Bonus will be declared in JANUARY, 1873, and all With-Profit Policies in force on the 30th JUNE, 1871, will participate. Assurances effected before JUNE 30th, 1870, will participate on two Premiums, and thus receive a whole year's additional share of Profits over later Policies.

Forms of Proposal, Balance Sheets, and every information, can be obtained from any of the Society's Agents, or of
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£50,000 ready to be **ADVANCED** by the **TEMPERANCE PERMANENT LAND and BUILDING SOCIETY**, on **FRESHOLD or LEASEHOLD PROPERTY**, for any period of years not exceeding 15, the mortgage being redeemable by equal Monthly Instalments. Interest (in addition to a small premium) 5 per cent. on the balance each year. Apply to
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A GENTLEMAN, retired from business, aged forty-five, is desirous of obtaining **DAILY OCCUPATION** in London for about five hours, and will be glad to treat with some Society. The interests of an approved Society would be advanced by the arrangement to be suggested.—Address, Y. Z., 82, King's-road, Brighton.

KERSHAW'S FAMILY and PRIVATE HOTEL, 14, Charter House-square, Aldersgate-street, London.

Visitors to London will meet with a comfortable home at the above Establishment, which is pleasantly and centrally situated within five minutes' walk of the General Post Office and one minute from the Aldersgate-street station of the Metropolitan Railway.

Terms 5s. per day, including Bed, Breakfast, Tea, and attendance. Private Sitting Rooms.

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PRESIDENT—His Grace the Duke of ARGYLL, K.T.

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A Pamphlet, with a brief description of the Charity, its object and advantages, will be gladly forwarded on application.

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The **COMMITTEE** will be happy to **RECEIVE** the **NAMES** of **CANDIDATES** for Election. The qualifications are, that they are in good health, and between one and five years of age. The two Girls who receive the highest number of votes at the Election will remain until sixteen.

73, Cheapside. JOSEPH SOUL, Hon. Sec.

CONTRIBUTIONS are earnestly **SOLICITED**, and will be thankfully received, for the **BUILDING FUND**, as well as for the general purposes of the Charity.

SURREY MISSION.

The **SEVENTY-THIRD ANNIVERSARY** of this Society will be held at **TRINITY CHAPEL, Brixton**.

On **MONDAY EVENING**, April 11th, will be a Devotional Service, at 7.0 The Rev. S. ELDRIDGE to preside and give an Address to the Missionaries.

On **TUESDAY**, the 12th, the Annual Meeting, in the afternoon, at 3.30, S. PLIMSOILL, Esq., M.P., in the Chair. Tea will be provided at 5.30, and the Rev. J. MACFARLANE, D.D., will preach in the evening.

LITTLE PORTLAND-STREET CHAPEL, LONDON.

On **SUNDAY MORNING** NEXT, the 10th of April, **BABOO KESUB CHUNDER SEN**, the eminent Indian Religious Reformer, will **PREACH** in this Chapel. Service to commence at 11.15 A.M. precisely. It will be a little longer than usual. Members of the Congregation are requested to be in their places as soon after 11 A.M. as possible, and to aid in accommodating strangers.

A WELCOME SOIREE, of a thoroughly unsectarian character, will be given to the distinguished Indian Religious Reformer, **BABOO KESUB CHUNDER SEN**, at the **HANOVER SQUARE ROOMS**, on **TUESDAY**, April the 12th.

SAMUEL SHARPE, Esq.,

President of the British and Foreign Unitarian Association, will take the Chair at Seven o'clock. Tea from Six to Seven o'clock.

Upwards of forty clergymen, of various denominations, have accepted invitations.

Admission by Ticket only. Tickets, 1s. each, to be had at the Hanover-square Rooms and at 178, Strand.

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